rot, page 15

Saturday December 14 1996

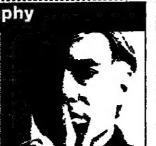
neGuardia

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The scandal that never was

and districted

Art forms of the century: photography



Sport **Liam Botham turns** his back on cricket

The Week, page 20

Germany and France agree compromise on pact hailed a 'victory for Europe' as Britain looks on

Major trails in euro's wake

Strategy for launch of single European currency gets an enthusiastic thumbs up after months of wrangling

John Palmer and Michael White in Dublin

HE Dublin summit last night struck a crucial compromise on the road to mone-tary union which paved the way for the launch of a single European currency on January 1, 1999 — but left John Major's Britain trailing defiantly in its wake.

As smaller EU states, led by the Irish presidency, brokered an agreement between France and Germany on the new currency "stability and growth pact", European offi-cials proudly revealed their winning design for the first

The day's work clears the way for a major political drive in the New Year to convince wavering public opinion in Germany, France and other countries to back monetary union - if the 1999 timetable can be met, which Mr Major and Kenneth Clarke openly doubt.

This is a victory for Europe. It is a victory for the euro," enthused the commissioner for the single cur-rency, Yves Thibault de Sil-the markets that we have guy, after the compromise had been hammered out.

But Mr Major's response was more sceptical. He conceded the other EU countries were making "Herculean efforts" to meet the 1999 deaddoubtful" that they would.

"There will be a buge effort to try. I agree with that. But the difficulties that there

were in agreeing the stability pact is but the first of a whole series of detailed decisions which will have to be taken." At Mr Major's side at the end of a week which saw his

government lose their overall Commons majority, the Chan-cellor, Kenneth Clarke, was scarcely more upbeat, saying he gave odds of 60/40 on monctary union "by around the end of the century". He said that the stability

pact had "struck the right balance" between budgetary discipline — sought by Germany
— and ensuring that "political control will remain with finance ministers", as President Chirac of France had

LIFE STATE OF

-

Faced with the rampant hostility to the euro of many Tory MPs, Mr Major balanced positive support for some EU initiatives with dire warnings that the Union could be blown wide open" if states favouring closer integration

insisted that others follow their lead later.

Yesterday's stability accord was reached after 11 hours of tortuous and, at times, arcane haggling. It came as the Euro-pean Monetary Institute un-veiled its choice of design for euro notes. A decision on the design of euro coins will be taken at the Amsterdam European annimit next June when Tony Blair may be inR Downing Street.
The final stages of the neg

tiation consisted of 30 minutes of wheeling and dealing between Germany's Chance lor Helmut Kohl and Presi dent Chirac. They 'finally agreed on the last precise figures and the detailed words used in the pact with a smile and a handshake", a watching Swedish diplomat said later.

The agreement was quickly made public by a visibly relieved Irish finance minis ter, Ruairi Quinn. There had been fears a failure to agree the stability pact might have triggered doubts about the po-litical-will to keep to the 1995 timetable and the risk of cur rency turbulence on international financial markets.

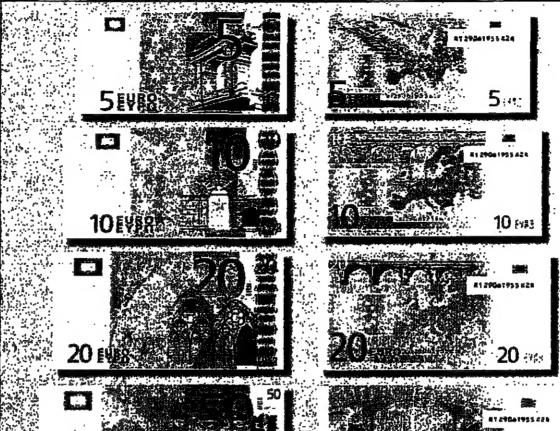
"We are now able to say agreed the legal basis (of the euro), the ERM [exchange rate mechanism] mark 2, and the terms and conditions of the stability and growth

pact," Mr Quinn declared.
"The terms of the stability pact might appear tough. But those who claim that adher-ence of strict budget stability is bad for jobs and growth are completely wrong. The experience of countries who have done most to meet the Maastricht criteria, notably Ire-land, is that this lays the basis for low interest rates, and a growth of investment and consumer confidence

and consumer confidence.
This is good for jobs."

Mr Major, who had earlier warned his colleagues on the need to reform EU labour markets—as the Tories had done—said later: "A lot of pretty crucial" decisions remained to be taken. "Most remained to be taken. "Mos crucial of all in due cours will be the assessment of not just whether the criteria ar artificially met on a particu-lar day but whether those cri-

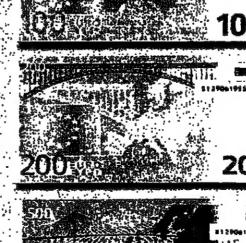
teria are sustainable." "If there is to be a bench-mark it will be on the day when it becomes clear whether countries can sus













The euro notes unveiled yesterday by EU officials in Dublin. A decision on coinage will be taken in June

Deyan Sudjic, architecture correspondent, assesses the artistic merits, or otherwise, of the euro banknotes with their pan-national identities

BY BANK of England standards, with its fix-ation for depicting cricket matches and decrepit whiskery Victorian men on its bank notes, the euro does at least look as if

it belongs in this century. But set beside the beautiful notes issued by the Dutch and the Swiss, the seven euro banknotes have the look of something makeshift, prepared in a hurry by an ex-people's republic struggling to rid its currency of the iconography of Stalinism and ultimately failing to catch up with the modern world.

Designing a note is a curious mix of conjuring trick and graphic skill. The designer has to transform a worthless scrap of paper into something apparently of value reflecting a specific national, or in this case pan-national, identity.

Using the imagery of ar-chitecture and engineering to do it is all very well as an idea, but the execution is dismal. Instead of real places we get identikit romanesque, fictitious ba-roque and film studio modern. They have all the grace

And there is something mawkish about the symbolism of all those bridges spanning national divides. opening to a brighter future.

The notes missed a vital element, heads of the great and good. Without them a bank note looks as if it is missing a vital ingredient. The missing heads serve to remind us that we have no heroes, because we have no heroes in common. And as for the regalia of the European identity de-

picted on the reverse, what could be more hollow than a

flag and a map? The seven notes come in a range of acid colours (apart from what will undoubtedly be the most common one, the E5, in Major grey): pink, blue, orange, green, yellow, purple. The name of the currency appears in both the Latin and Greek alphabets, plus a confusing array of initials of the European Central Bank in five variants.

The designs were the winning entries of a competition, open only to "experi-enced banknote designers nominated by the national central banks". Their submissions were judged by 14 people — art historians. graphic designers and marketing experts. The British member of the jury was Nicholas Butler, billed by the European Monetary Institute as "an expert in industrial design".

The shortlist was then market-tested by "frequent currency handlers" such as shop assistants and taxi drivers. The winners

remain anonymous. There are 12.7 billion culation in the 15 member states. The euro notes which will replace them will be issued by the EMI. The right to issue coins will remain with individual countries, but the amount issued will have to be approved by the

institute. The first banknotes will be printed in 1998. The euro is due to be introduced in participating countries by January 2002 at the latest, and national currencies will cease to be legal tender in those countries by July

Queen and Tyson set for classic clash with £1m purse



In the blue corner . . . the pigeon fancying monarch Nick Varley on a race in South Africa on which some big reputations depend

E IS one of the most fearsome men on earth, reared on boxing in the Bronx.

She grew up in splen
They will clash early next year. More accurately, and year accurately.

Neither needs the money,

She grew up in splen-dour, but has had a miser-able time of late; all that family squabbling and tax

demands.

Now the Queen is to meet
Mike Tyson, ex-con and exheavyweight champion of
the world, in a showdown
worth £1 million. geon racing.

Both the Queen and the recently deposed champion are keen fanciers, and both or Tyson's birds, or any of have entered birds in the the other 1,600 shipped in Million Dollar Classic to be

staged in Sun City, South Africa, in February. They are among scores of fanciers who will be taking part in a race which marks a return to the monied roots of the sport.
The first racing pigeons

in Britain were a present from the King of Belgium to George IV. Now it has all the trappings of modern sport, including drug tests — of droppings — and even television coverage in

from Saudi Arabia, the US, China and Europe, gain the upper hand. They will be trained to

recognise their "home" lofts in South Africa, and the first back will win \$250,000 — about £155,000. But they will have to have survived the heat, the threat from birds of prey and dehydration. And even then they might not be safe: many racing pigeons have a sorry end, cooked and en-cased in pie pastry.



In the red corner . . . deposed king Tyson, who 'did bird'

Inside

Millions of people in Britain faced higher home loan bills as two of the country's biggest

World News Koff Appan of Ghana is to be the next.
United Nations secretary-general after France abnipity dropped its opposition to him.

Finance Olticorp, US bank, has abandoned plans to pay £25 billion. to take over Amex in what would have been the largest buy out " in banking history.

Weather 2: Obituaries 7: Comment and Letters 8 Liam Botham, son of all-rounder fan, is turning his back on cricket, opting to play rugby union for West Hartlepool. The Week

The Guardian International Umbrella



Protect yourself from the elements with the stylish Guardian International

This large blue and white golfing umbrella features a fox frame and wooden handle, £19.50. Price includes postage, packing and handling charges.

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Card No:
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Address:

Please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

Country braced for Saddam's revenge after gun attack wounds his favourite son

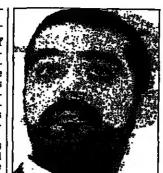
Fear stalks ragi streets mortgages as rates rise

David Hirst in Beirut

HOUSANDS people gathered yes-terday in the Baghdad street where Saddam Husseln's elder son survived an assassination attempt in a staged cel-ebration of Uday Hussein's remarkable escape from gun-men who attacked his car. But there were suspicions

that Uday's condition could regime has admitted, and behind the facade of celebration — marked by the slaughter of eep - Iraqis were braced for sweeping retaliation. Officials in Jordan said the

border with Iraq closed for several hours after Thursday evening's attack, apparently to prevent those responsible from fleeing the country. Iraqi officials searched cars and passengers crossing the border yesterday after it had



regime are unsure whether it

was carried out by enemies within the government itself,

But they say that, either way, it is a brutal shock to the

system — proof that in spite of his success in securing a

partial resumption of oil

exports. President Saddam is

vulnerable to the sudden, un-

expected blow that one day must bring his downfall.

or outside it.

Uday – a life of infamy

MORE than claims to fame, | Target of hatred: Object of Uday Hussein has claims to infamy as the wild-child el-der son of Saddam Hussein.

Character: Often drunk, and sadistically violent.

Crimes: Last year shot an uncle, Wathban Ibrahim, whose leg was amputated oned to death his father's faithful food taster in 1988.

described as only "lightly saying two gunmen were wounded" — was making a involved.

Speedy recovery in hospital. Unusually, Youth Radio and opposition were more dra-Television — owned by Uday himself — had broken the news of the attack before it reached the outside world. But yesterday it did not mention the subject. This has fu-elled speculation that Uday's wounds are more serious

opposition were more dra-matic. They cited witnesses as saying that four or five men armed with machine guns and grenades, took part in the attack in the smart residential suburb of Mansura. Uday, aged 32, was repor-tedly seen with his head covered in blood — although it

at least two other assassina-tion attempts since the 1991

Key enmity: Despised by younger brother, Qusay, who presides over father's

security agencies, "But I

think we can rule him out

[in the assassination bid]", said an opposition figure.

"Cyanide in Uday's whisky would be more his style."

Gulf war.

creen. The assailants esc If these accounts are true, the planning involved must be disturbing to the regime --although Uday has always presented an easy target. No-toriously reckless, especially when drunk, he would often career unescorted around hdad in an expensive car. His personal conduct has been highly provocative to a

bullets or the smashed wind-

people whose rulers live in luxury while they sink into deeper misery. One theory, therefore, is that the assassination bid was just an iso lated expression of popular iespair. That would be the east worrying for the regime It would be more concerned if it found that it was carried out by an organised group within the armed forces or se curity services. One oppos tion source claimed that among those already arrested

were 200 members of an elite security apparatus.

The regime would be more alarmed still if it turned out

of responsibility for the daring According to yesterday assassination attempt, and excided opponents of the Iraqi papers, Uday — officially Baghdad quoted witnesses whether this was caused by dam's clan.

Homeowners face dearer

Experts predict more interest rate rises before the election

Richard Miles

MLLIONS of homeowners face higher mort-gage bills in the New Year after two of the biggest lenders yesterday announced a hike in their standard inter-

est rates. Signalling dearer mort-gages for all, Halifax, Brit-ain's largest lender with 2.5 million borrowers, upped its variable rate to 7.25 per cent. The rise comes into force immediately for new borrowers, but takes effect on January 1 for existing customers.

Other lenders quickly followed suit, with Nationwide adding a quarter point to its size of a new loan. For Halifax expected," he said.

loan rate, which rises to 6.99 per cent. A third lender, Britannia, also increased its interest charge to 7.25 per cent.
Although the cost of borrowing is still far below its peak when rates briefly hit 15.4 per cent in March 1990. economists believe they will rise again next year, possibly before the General Election. An incoming Labour gover-ment may well be forced to

bump up interest rates to con-tain inflation. Climbing house prices will bring added pressure to lift rates.

Yesterday's increase puts between an extra £7 and £10

customers it is the first rise since February 1995, but it is the second within a month for Nationwide borrowers. Mike Blackburn, Halifax's

chief executive, said the move followed October's rise in bank base rates. He said:
"The recovery in the housing market continues and over the last two years borrowers have benefited from low interest rates and low mortgage

Rob Thomas, of the investment bank UBS, said rates will have to rise again early next year — if not before the election, at least shortly afterwards - as the economy heats up and inflationary

pressures emerge: Mr Thomas said climbing house prices will play a signifi-cant part. "They have really taken off faster than anybody

Blair vote rigger named

Andrew Culf Media Correspondent

HE woman at the centre of Labour's attempts to rig the BBC's Personality of the Year award was last sht revealed as a veteran Ministry of Agriculture civil servant specialising in hedgerows and wildlife habitats. Jules Hurry, who signed a

letter to Labour Party workers urging them to fax their support for Tony Blair in the Radio 4 Today programme poll, has worked at the ministry for about 20 years.

As Labour launched an internal inquiry, a succession of spin doctors and party lead-

The Ministry of Agricul- | Hurry, a civil servant in the ture, Fisheries and Food said Ms Hurry, a middle-ranking policymaker on rural issues. had been on unpaid leave of absence since last month.

Ms Hurry signed the letter from Labour's audience participation unit, which is based at the party's media centre at Millbank and part of the team under campaign manager Peter Mandelson. Despite the attempted vote-rigging. Mr Blair failed to ical party. She is not allowed to make the shortlist - although John Major is under-stood to be a contender.

Ms Hurry's involvement led for calls from Conservative MPs for an inquiry into the neutrality of the civil service.

countryside policy unit. Embarrassed Labour officials insisted Ms Hurry, who is a party member, had not bro-ken Civil Service rules. She has been granted a career break by MAFF because of her partner's disability.

A spokesman said: "Normal Civil Service rules apply dur-ing her leave of absence and those allow her to do clerical campaign publicly or speak for

a political party and she has not done so in any way." Brian Wilson, who runs Labour's rebuttals unit, admitted it had been a "tacky" venture. "It was a silly thing A MAFF spokesman said it and there's no attempt to de was trying to contact Ms fend it," he told Today.

Pensioner recovers bungalow 'stolen' by elusive fraudster

Clare Dyer Legal Correspondent

APENSIONER whose bungalow was stolen four years ago in an ingenious fraud has won it back despite warnings from legal experts that he had little chance.

Frank Higgins, aged 75, whose plight was first revealed by the Guardian, was yesterday celebrating "a marvellous gift for Christmas, which came out

bungalow built in 1961 on land in South Wonston, Hampshire, bought for £500. He lived there until five years ago when he fell ill while visiting Scotland, had an operation for cancer of the colon and moved into the Burntisland, Fife, home of his flancée, Ella Millar, now aged 70,

to recuperate. He left the bungalow empty but furnished to await his name, D. N. Wetton, replaced return, but he developed fur-

The former Royal Marine ther health problems. Four Land law experts believed fitness instructor had the years ago a man calling him the real Mr Higgins had fallen bungalow built in 1961 on self Frank Higgins swore a through a loophole in the sysstatutory declaration before a solicitor that he was the true owner but had lost the deeds. The Land Registry regis tered the land and issued a certificate in the name of Frank Higgins. The fraudster. who despite extensive police investigations has never been

found, sold the property on to

an innocent purchaser, whose

than admitted

tem under which a new buyer unaware of a previous fraud is entitled to remain on the register as owner.

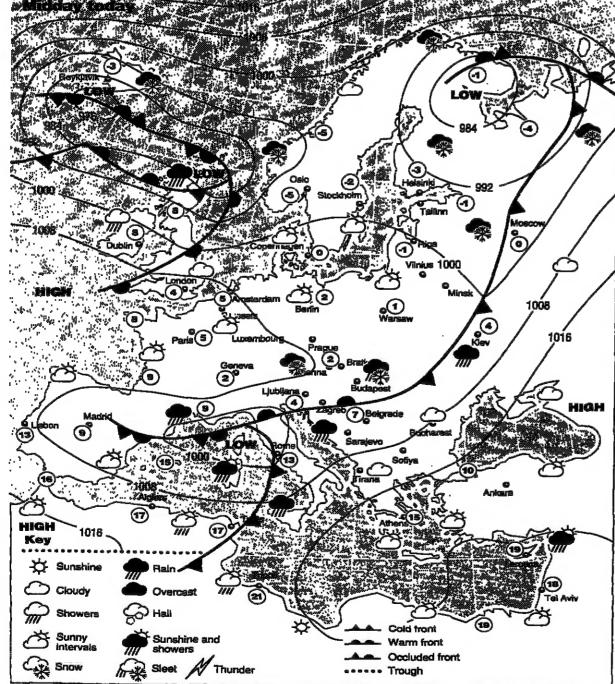
But the Land Registry which accepts that it should have asked for proof that the fraudster was Frank Higgins, offered to refund the money Mr Wetton paid for the prop erty from its compensation

Mr Higgins's and Mr Wetton's legal fees, is expected to cost the Land Registry £100,000. Mr Higgins, a second world war veteran who lives on the state pension plus an £800-a-year private pension, was refused legal aid because of £9,000 savings. When he heard he was getting his bungalow back, he felt "great, ab-

which includes

olutely marvellous' "I felt tremendously reasered. My faith was

The weather in Europe



Forecast for the cities

After a fine and frosty start, outbreeks of sleet and snow will spread from the west across southern Norway and Denmark, eventually reaching southern Sweden towards evening. The snow will be heavy in places but should turn to rain in Denmark and on the Norwegian west cosst. The rest of Scandinavia will have a cold day with one or two andw showers. Max temp ranging from 3C in west-am Denmark to minus 8C in the north.

Low Countries, Germany, Amstria, Switzerland. Switzerland:

Early log and trost may persist all day in a lew spots, but in most places it will brighten up with some sunny periods. Switzerland, however, will have some outbreaks of rain and mountain-snow, and this may extend across parts of Austria. Max

Southern France will be mostly dull and wet, espe-cially at first. Eisewhere early fog and frost will clear to allow some sunny spells. Max temp 3-10C clear to allow some suffiny epoin. Max retiry trom north to south.

Spain and Pertugal:
Early rain in the ast will soon move away to leave a good deal of dry and bright weather, although more rain will reach the externe south tonight

more rain will reach the extreme south tonight. Max temp 8-16C from north to south.

Yearly:

Outbreaks of rain will soon reach the north and west and then extend to all parts this afternoon; the rain will be heavy at times with a risk of thunder in the south. Max temp 6-14C from north to south.

Television and radio — Saturday

OSans The Firk Pentiner Show, 8.25 News, realizer, 8.40 Speed Paper, 9.05 The Real dventures Of Johny Quest, 9.30 The Morph les, 9.30 The New Adventures Of Superman.

8.10em PLES The Saint Mess The Tigor. 8.20 Open University: Women, Children And

8 Intelest
7.00aea World News. 7.15 Work! Weether.
7.20 Holiday Outings. 7.25 Butten Moon.
7.20 Holiday Outings. 7.25 Butten Moon.
7.25 Robe and Rosie of Cooleantel Bay.
7.50 Gordon the Gopher. 8.05 Artifax.
8.35 Cuckoo Steer. 9.00 Biss Peter. 9.25
Grange Hill Ormbus. 10.00 Dr Who: The
Time Warrior. 10.20 Turnstook. 11.00 The
Credin Lins. 11.50 World Weether. 11.50 The
Credin Lins. 11.50 World Weether. 11.50 The
Sooty Show. 3.00 Robin and Rosts of
Cocideratel Bay. 3.10 Dengamuse. 3.35
Biss Peter. 4.00 George Hill Ormbus. 4.35
Prime Weether. 4.00 Being Sevend? 7.25 Noet's
House Party. 9.00 Berny Hill 9.55 Prime
Weether. 10.00 French and Saunders.
10.30 A Bit of Fry and Laute. 11.00 The
Fast Show. 11.30 The Felf Guy. 12.00 Top
of the Pops. 12.36 Later with Jools Holiand.
1.30 World Weether. 1.35 Recycling in the
Peper Industry. 2.00 Mind Reacters. 2.30
Sergeett Magrawa et the Court. 2.30
Biddgr; Regulation and Control. 3.30
Biddgr; Regulation and Control. 3.30
Biddgr; Regulation and Control. 3.30
Undestanding Music. Following a Score.
BESC World

DEstricted

7.00mer News 7.20 Window on Europe, 8.00
World Hearthers 8.05 World Foous Evolymon,
9.00 World Hearthers and Westher, 9.05 World
Foous Pich to Pich, 14.00 News, 10.20 Time
Out. The Teast Show, 11.00 News 1.00 Time
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12.00 World News, 2.20 Debah in Mew.
12.20 Brith Report, 1.00 Hearthers and
Westher, 1.05 World Foots Wheele, 3.00
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Barry Normer, 4.00 World Hearthers and
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7.50 Prayer for the Day, 7.55 Wastfer, 8.00
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Ends, 12.00 News, 17.00 News, 10.05
Hard Today, 1.55 Wastfer, 2.00 News, 2.10
Any Cussions 2.55 Shipping Forcase, 3.00
News, 199 Areasers 3.350 Saturday Phytruser
Theo, 5.00 News, 1464ing Haboy, 5.30 Science
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about East, 8.20 Spicioscopie Father, 6.20 On
These Days, 9.50 Saturday Night Theater,
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11.55 Jama Const. 12.45 KM, 12.45 Linch
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As Ward Savion.
BBC World Service 2.4-94.6 MHz; 198 HHz (1514)

BBC World Service on be received in England on MW 668 lefts (463m) and in Western Europe on LW 198 lefts (1515m) 7.00ams Namethy, 7.30 Fourth Estate, 7.45 Global Concerns, 8.00 World News, 8.16 Lefter From America, 8.20 People and Petitos, 8.00 World News, 8.16 World of Falm, 9.15 A. Jeby Good Show, 18.00 World News, 18.00 World 9.51mans Papert, 10.18 Sound Business, 10.30 The Stath 1.100 Newsdeet, 11.30 BC Englat, 11.45 From The Westers, 12.20 Newsdeet, 12.30 Medican [Just, 10.0 News, 1.05 World Sustanes Review, 1.15 Bittain Today, 1.30 Quote Linquide, 2.00 News, 4.05 Sportsworld, 5.00 News, 8.15 Sportsworld, 5.30 News, 8.15 News, 6.01 Westernd, 4.30 From the Westers.

BBC World Service

Science in Action, S.00 News, S.01 The Science in Action, S.00 News, S.01 The Greenfald Colection, S.45 Fourth Estate, S.00 Newshour, 10.00 News, 10.00 World Burkers Review, 10.15 Ethian Today, 10.30 Markins Live, 14.00 Newsdook, 11.30 Play of the Market T.0. Science Technology, 10.30 Markins Live, 14.00 Newsdook, 11.30 Play of the Market Tod. Science Technology, 10.30 Markins Live, 11.00 Newsdook, 11.30 Play of the

ACE Back in the Habit. 2,00 The Day they Care Bobles Away, 5,00 The Seet, 7,00 Sien Act E Sack in The Habit. 9,00 Major League I. 11,00 in The Mouth Of Madness, 12,40 Sien Hangerou. 2,15 Indiant At Deception Fidge. 2,50 A Dengerous Affair, S.25' The Steel. Sicy Micerles

7.00 The Garries. 9.00 A Mother's Story. 11.00 Mrs Doubtins. 1.05 Carrings The Cross-Seef Lion. 3.00 The Safeburg Connection. 5.00 The Sardot. 6.95 Mrs Doubtins. 9.00 Stor Traic Generations. 11.00 Pulp Fotion. 1.35 Secret Gornes II. 3.10 Body Bags. 4.40 Police Resout. Sky Movies Gold.

Scott White Christmas, 7.00 Americ And Old Lace, 9.00 Decdal, 11.00 Ser Trak V: The Final Fronter, 12.50 Body Double, 2.45 A Farewell To Americ, 5.20 Februm Of The Bad Men, 6.50 Close.

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 News, 16.00 The Rugby Club, 91.00 Fdd She
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 Fullor Mandal, 7.00 Rugby
 Fullor Sky Johns - 1.8, 9.1, 9.0
 Bosing: Best of All Time Heavyweights, 12.30
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 Bosing: Best of All Time Heavyweights, 12.30
 Bush of Rugby
 Rugby

Sky One

Eurosport

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 Dely and His Pilencis, 9.00 Cason and Gale, 9.30
 Free Will, 10.00 The Best of Sety, Jessey Reymen, 11.00 Designing Women, 11.30 May by Boren, 12.00 Paring Women, 11.30 May by Boren, 12.00 Paring Women, 11.30 May by Boren, 12.00 Paring West Office Set Office Cason The History, Durating, 4.00 The Lossue Men, 8.00 West Westing Felicies for Chairna, 8.00 Pacit News, 7.00
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UK Code! UK Gold

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 B.00 Going for Gold. 8.30 Give Us a Club.
 Sufficient. 11,00 Neighbours.
 1,50 EastEnders. 3.56 Minder, 3.50
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 A-Team. 7.45 Bullenye. 7.45 Some
 Moham Do 'Ave Tim. 8.25 Whethere
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 Shoeking. 10.10 Kept. 11.10 The
 Detectives. 11.50 Mismi Vics. 1.45 The
 Abum Show. 2.40 Shopping at Night.
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 Asse MBC Superchannel

• Astra/Eutelsot.

7.00 The McJ.sughin Group. 7.30 Helio Austria, Histo Vierna. 8.00 The Best of the Ticket. 8.30 Europa Journal. 9.00 Users Group. 9.30 Computer Chronicles. 10.00 Infamel Cafe. 10.30 At Home. 11.00 Super Shop. 12.00 Golf. 1.00 NH. Power West. 4.00 The is the PGA Tour Moretly Highights. 4.00 Scan. 4.30 Firsthin File. 8.00 East of the Ticket. 5.30 Europe 2000. 6.00 Ustrasta. 7.00 National Geographic. 9.00 Profiler. 19.00 Taken. 19.00 The Tornight Show with Jay Luno. 11.00 Late Night with Construction of Christian State Lieutyles. 1.00 The Tornight Show with Jay Luno. 2.00 ASSNBC Internight Westernl. 2.00 The State State Scott Show. 4.90 Takin' Jazz. 4.30 Encustive Lieutyles. 4.00 Europe 2000. 6.30 Inspiration. 6.30 Impiration.

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Special Forces. 3.00 Closs.

Television and radio — Sunday

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8.30 lectarony Gold. 9.46 Hightness.
19.30 lectarony Gold. 9.46 Hightness.
19.10 The tay Blay Spider. 10.25 The Mask. 41.00 Ship to Shore. 11.230 Accept Hask. 41.00 Ship to Shore. 11.230 Accept Hask. 41.456 The Ousen's Nove. 12.200 Accept Hask. 41.456 The Ousen's Nove. 12.200 Accept Hask. 41.456 The Surcey Show. 2.00 The Strongers. 2.25 Regional programmes. 2.25 European Cross. Country Championships. 3.50 Rugby Special. 6.10 Ski Surchy. 6.255 Spites O' The Jogur. 7.46 Skir Thick Usyager. 8.30 American Visions. 9.30 The Manay Programms. 16.10 Filliat Doctor Zhingo. 1.15 Filliath Vision.
2.50 Closs. 3.00 The Learning Zone. **BBC Prime**

O resset.
7.00 Jonny Bidgs. 7.35 World Weather.
7.20 Jonny Bidgs. 7.35 Robin and Rosle of Coddesied Bay. 7.50 The Scoly Show. 8.19 Dargamous. 8.35 Mald Metan and Her Meny Men. 3.00 Bits Peter. 9.25 Carrys Hill Craribus. 10.00 Top of the Pops. 10.35 Iteratous. 11.00 Top of the Pops. 10.35 Iteratous. 11.00 Top of the Pops. 10.35 Iteratous. 11.00 Top in House of Blott. 11.30 Roychigh in the Pops in Rosley 1.250 Turnsbost. 2.35 Ember. 2.45 Gordon T Gopher. 2.55 Robin and Rosle of Coddesies Bay. 3.10 Artiss. 3.35 Bits Peter. 4.00 George Hill Combiss. 3.35 Bits Peter. 4.00 Description of Peters 2.35 Peter Bistonies. 7.30 Widdle Weather. 7.20 Policel Histories. 7.30 Widdle Weather. 7.20 Policel Histories. 7.30 Victilis. 3.00 Figit of the Combis. 3.00 Arena. 10.00 Yes Minister. 10.30 L Caucha. 11.35 Songs of Peters. 12.05 Widnes. 12.55 Peters World.
BBC World. BBC World

■ Eutlainet

7.00ams Woold Naves and Weather, 7.20 Bitsin in Verw 8.00 Woold News and Weather, 8.20 This West, 8.00 Woold News and Weather, 8.20 This West, 8.00 Woold News and Weather, 8.05 Woold Foo.s. Beginner, 19.00 World News and Weather, 19.00 World News and Weather, 19.00 World News and Weather, 19.20 Whole News and Weather, 19.00 Whole News and Weather, 19

Radio 4

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BBC World Service

7.00m Namely, 7.30 Juzz Fo' The Addro.
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4.00 News. 3.01 Pipp on the Line -Prove In
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Copertrager, 8.00 News, 8,15 Global

Consent, 8.30 News in German, Nurse surger Today, 6.30 White Chr. 6.40 Rook Chook 6.46 Sports Reundup, 7.50 Novesdeek, 7.30 Pay of the Week The Piron Turro's Week, 8.30 The Vintage Chart Show, 8.00 Noveshour 10.00 Noves, 10.05 World Business Brigh, 10.15 Britan Today, 10.30 Juzz For The Astery, 44 Ann Australest, 11.42 Custor Pays (Impelies, 44 Ann Australest, 11.42 Custor Pays (Impelies, 11.46 South Revenue, 17.20 Letter From Artiside 11.46 South Revenue, 12.50 News, 12.50 What's Who in Music. 12.15 The Learning What's, 12.30 in Praise of God. 1.00 News 1.30 Development 95, 1.45 Ethen Today, 2.00 Newsdool, 2.30 Shaft Stary, 2.45 Or The More, 2.00 Newsdoy, 2.30 Arying God 4.00 News, 4.15 Sports Roundus, 4.30 Heringe, 6.00 Newsdayl, 6.3 8.00 Newsday, 6.30 Europe

The Movie Channel

Sky Movies

Actor
7.00 The Ranger, The Cook And A Hole in
The Sky, 8.35 The Idd. 8.35 The
Benovers, 11.00 Troop Beverly Hills, 1.90
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8.00 Clear Sizts, 7.00 The Beverly
Hilbilles, 8.00 Edge Of Decaption, 11.00
Killer, 12.40 Decd Air, 2.10 Hony And
Tonto, 4.00 Natural Courses, 5.30 The
Beverly Hilbillies.

Sky Movies Gold

12.00 The Muppets Take Maminston. 1.40 Toke Me. 3.15 Desert Bloom. 5.05 The Lost World. 7.00 Heaven Car Wait, 9.06 Moon Cwer Pesodor. 11.00 Do The Right Thing. 1.10 The Return Of Mickey Spikme's Mice Harmer. 2.50 The Mountain. 4.25 Seggent York. 4.50 Close.

Sky Sports

Eurosport

Astra-Flutshett
 3.00 Footbalt World Out Qualifying Flounds
 40.00 Alphin Sking Men's World Out Super-G-Live 12.00 Bod from World Quo-Live 2.00
 Schollegt World Quo-Live 2.00
 Swimming
 SyntaStract Course European Championships
 Live 4.00 Cross-County: European
 Chemicianity, 8.200 Ski-Jumping-World Quo
 7.00 Shootbar German Open-Live 10.00
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 Championships, 10.30 Bodang WBC Light
 Heavweight Chemicianity, 11.30 Medications
 Story of the ide-off Men T.T. 22.30 Ski-Jumping:
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Sky One

● Astra

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12.30 Fine) TV, 1.00 World Westing
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7.30 The Simpsora, 8.00 Sevely His 90010,
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Neighbaz. 12.30 Carel Confloratio. 1.00 The
Other Side of Paradies. 3.10 Shapping at Night.

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 S.00 Wings, 6.00 Niary Seeks Warriors of the Night, 7.00 Victory in Europe, 8.00 Cincetarniers, 8.20 Arthur C Cipriery Mysterious Universe, 9.00 Showcase Introduction: Fauture World: After the Warrining, 9.01 The Fetal Flower, 19.00 The Secrets of the Deap. 19.00 The Science of Star Trek. 12.00 Full-section St. 1.00 Justice Fise, 2.00 Traillobours, 3.00 Close.

Distressing poster seeks to outfox the trade as real fur returns to acceptability after five years in the wilderness Animal campaigners fight furtive comeback

IVE years ago, when you took off your mink coat after shopping in the West End of London, you would probably find a gob of phlegm or a sticker on the back saying "Ugh! Your disgusting fur

campaigners had cleared the streets of real fur and Har-rods had closed its fur department due to lack of demand. But after the first wave of environmentally aware cam-paigning subsided, designers started sneaking bits of fur trim on collars and cuffs. Dolce & Gabbana, the Italian design duo, have warmed their fans' necks, wrists and hearts with mink trim on

chiffon coats and handhags. Tomasz Starzewski, the London socialite who dresses minor royals, has had models

for the last few seasons.

Madonna, once a vociferous member of the anti-fur cam-paign, has swathed herself in furs to get into the skin of her alter ego, Eva Peron.

After five years in the fash-ion wilderness, fur is back as an acceptable accessory. The an acceptance accessory. The Fur Education Council, a London-based organisation which speaks for the fur trade, claims sales are up 30 per cent since last year. Herbert Johnson, the hatters in Old Bond Street, London, has seen sales of mink, sable and fox fur hats increase by 10-15 per cent year on year for the

"A lot of people were not wearing their fur coats because they were scared to walk out in furs in London," general manager of Herbert Johnson. "Now they are be-

A Doice & Gabbana spokes woman said: "We started making fake and real for stoles there has been a much greater demand for the real thing."

But these concessions to luxury at the expense of eth-ics have not gone unnoticed. This weekend, a disgusting billboard advertisement wil be distressing millions of Britons. The poster, by campaign group Respect for canimals, shows a bloody, skinned for's head on top of a lox fur cost, with the slogan: "Do you have the face to wear fur?"

as the anti-fur group Lynx. Spokesman Mark Glover said: "We saw the way fur was being reported in the media, and we could see it was creep-ing back into respectability. Fashion pictures were beginning to portray fur in a way that doesn't show the ugly brutality behind the glamor-

against almost everything. Designer Katharine Hamnett made clothes bearing anti-nu-clear slogans in letters a foot high Lynx sold Tahirts bear night Lynx soid T-shirts beating jungle designs with the
catchline: "The roar of disapproval". Top designers such
as Yoji Yammamoto came out
with huge take fur coats in
pink and lime green. Fun fur was not just something you

was not just something you was not just something you were, it was a statement.

Anaerican designer Calvin maked supermodels.

But the trouble with being fur after Peta (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) picketed his offices and forced him to watch a video of animals caught in traps.

A Peta spokesman, Andrew

Anterican designer Calvin naked supermodels.

But the trouble with being that's in, sooner or later, goes out.

Audiences stirred by the anti-fur message of Dispey's animals, while Tara Newley, it hat we realised it was realised it was

The problem



ous veneer."

Butler, said that at this time | ted creations worn by Cruella | standpoint, which welcome in the 1980s, it was hip to be | of year, the fur industry al- | De VII, played by Glenn Close. | fur advertisers. Editor J. ways claims attitudes have changed "Fur sales plum-meted in the late 1980s, and they've been going down since. The only designers using fur are the ones who

never stopped."

Peta began its "Td rather go
naked than wear fur" campaign in the mid-1980s, aiming at the fashion-conscious. It struck a blow for baby seals

De VII, played by Glenn Close. There is some mid-1990s con-fusion in the profusion of Dal-matian-spotted jackets and accessories in the shops.

glossy Tatler magazine fea-tures four socialities in the buff, a publicity sunt for Peta. One of them, Tamara Beckwith, admits she does not lie awake worrying about the brutal death of furry animals, while Tara Newley, Joan Collins's daughter, tem-porarily forgets which char-ity she is promoting: "Tve al-ways fantasised bout being a

fur advertisers. Editor Jane Procter said: "I don't think there's anything wrong with fur. I can't see the difference between wearing sheepskin and fur, as long as it's not an endangered species."

She was surprised to see fur

in the latest winter collections, as the UK fashion industry lifted its voluntary ban. "We thought it was fake. It was only when we looked closely that we realised it was real."
Tatler, resolutely umfastionable as ever, is picking up on the fashion for wearing your principles on your

sleeve, several years after everyone else has used their Hamnett anti-Pershing T-

The protest



Left: Kate Moss wearing Fendi Autumn/Winter 1998, a real fur coat and signature print jeans

Above: The Tatler picture of Peta supporters, from left, model Tamzin Greenhill, actresses Tamara Beckwith and Sheba Ronay — granddaughter of gourmet Egon and daughter of designer Edina, and broadcaster and writer Tara Newley — daughter of actress Joan Collins

Right: The Respect for Animals poster

WHELL/TATLER, CONDENAST





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Tennessee Whiskey and a Kentucky bourbon.

JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

a difference, we believe one sip will tell you all you

need to know.

Catwalkers steal the march on fakes

Susannah

Frankel, Fashion Editor, feels what it's like to don someone else's coat

OTHING is quite like the feeling of wearing fur. The effect is rather like being wrapped in feathers — protected from the elements, warm, safe and secure, if only in the browledge that you are safe and secure, it only in the knowledge that you are one of the privileged few who can actually afford it, and revel in the status that goes with it.

At least that's presum-ably the reasoning behind the re-emergence of the fur-wearing fraternity.

wearing fraternity.

It is true that there does appear to be more fur on the catwalk than there has been for years. People are spending more money on clothes than they have done since the 1980s. The kudos of designer lahels, too, is back with a ferocity that hasn't been seen since the first haif of that most decadent of decades.

The kudos of decades.



Madonna as Evita, swathed in a symbol of the very rich

or electrocuted. ☐ There are nine fur farms in Britain — down from 60 10 years ago. ☐ UK sales have gone

Fur facts

☐ Up to 100 squirrels or

chinchillas, 80 minks or 50

foxes are used to make a full-length coat, says Peta.

They are starved, gassed

from £80m in 1984, £11m in 1989, £18m in 1993 to. 222m in 1994, says the Fur Trade Association. The Fur Education Council says sales were up 30 per cent

but while luxury may no longer be a dirty word, ostentatious certainly is. Our climate no longer demands that animals be killed for

stoles and trimmings on coats and evening gowns were the thing for wealthy merchants and aristocrats to be seen in. Sealskin was the most sought after. In the 1920s and '30s, fur was equally de rigueur — how else could young damsels in the slightest fringed, beaded creations protect

first half of that most decadent of decades.

That said, for the vast majority of us, the idea of wearing animal fur seems inappropriate, vulgar even. We might have more money to spend on our physical appearance than we used to, themselves from the cold?

various acrylic fibres, was born. Relatively inexpen-sive, it also had the advantage of being easily dyed in bold colours. It is a look that has lasted, and fake fur coats are more in demand than ever.

It's hardly surprising considering that the aver-

age price of a fake fur coat at Harrods is around £350 compared with £3,249 for a blue fox fur stole.

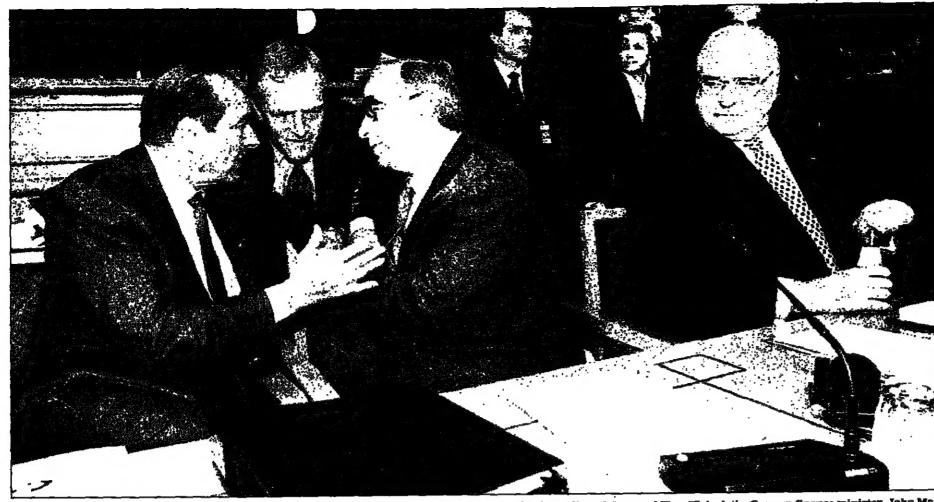
"We closed our real for department in 1990," says Andrew Wiles, director of press and public relations at Harrods. "There simply wasn't the demand, and we needed the space for fash-ion. We do sell coats with fur linings and trimming, which is a far more discreet

Fake furs, however, are flying out of the store. We've just re-ordered. The best-selling versions are short and black, a far cry from the plethora of white fur-trimmed handbags or impossibly opulent, russetcoloured collars seen on the

runways in October. The fact that much of what appears on the cat-walk will never go into pro-duction is nothing new. As an aspirational show-piece then, real fur might be making some kind of a comeback. Whether the British public will actually ever be prepared to wear it

Premier lectures fellow leaders on flexible labour markets as differences over immigration controls and borders are kicked into touch

Major boasts UK is 'grit in EU oyster'





Chancellor Kohl looks on as President Chirac chats to Joachim Bitterlich (second left), a German foreign policy adviser, and Theo Walgel, the German finance minister. John Major talked of a raft of disagreements

Unity on the fight equipment, border control and training for customs officers—on Central Asia which is beginning to export narcotics into the EIT. their offer of expertise—equipment, border control the drive by some member states to use the current intergovernmental conference—reviewing the machinery of some member states to use the current intergovernmental conference—reviewing the machinery of some member states to use the current intergovernmental conference—reviewing the machinery of some member states to use the current interger. against drugs, but some crucial snags remain

SHOW of European unity over the fight against drug trafficking and organised crime was a shieural feethers. and organised crime was achieved by the Dublin sumcontrol of immigration asylum and national borders were again kicked into touch. After a session spent dis-

cussing the Irish draft text of EU treaty revisions — to be decided in Amsterdam next June - John Major signalled a raft of disagreements on which he would not budge, though he stressed they were only on relatively few issues. "The United Kingdom is

sometimes the grit in the European oyster. It may not look very pretty from the out-side, but it is pretty effective

The Prime Minister, who bean, but this time to focus

mitters yesterday, but funda-mental differences over the without others either prestates to move closer together to follow. "The wrong sort of flexibility would blow Europe

wide apart. With Mr Major adamant that he will not give way over Britain's literally insular traditions of tough border con-trols, or allow the European Court of Justice any say in immigration or asylum pol-lcy, he did join forces with President Jacques Chirac of France to launch a drugs

initiative. The two proposed that the EU repeat last year's anti-drugs campaign in the Carri-

"All of us are affected by the continuous supply of illicit opiates and heroin from Cencounter-narcotics capabilities in the zone allow traffickers to explore attractive new

Cooperation at inter-gov ernmental level, rather than through EU institutions, is seen by Whitehall as the best approach. Mr Major is telling his EU colleagues that, after a slow start which reflects the

New measures to combat sophisticated cross-border crime confirmed at Dublin inrenewed targeting of the Balkan drugs routes into the European heartland, usually bringing in drugs from the South Asian "Golden Triangle" via Turkey, and stronger measures to detect and punish Illicit cultivation within

Europe's borders. A review of national laws that may impede effective action against slavery and the sexual exploitation of chil-

ics into the EU.

They told fallow-leaders in a letter circulated in Dublin:

European institutions — for expanding the EU's supranational role in border control and immigration remains subject to further negotiation before the conference ends at the Amsterdam summit.
The incoming Dutch EU

presidency is keen to incorporate the Schengan Agreement
— abolishing border controls
— formally into the EU
treaty. Mr Major has made
plain that London will resist that, as it will efforts to hartion policies.

It emerged yesterday that cautious culture of police and SU interior ministers agreed justice officialdom, the 15 at a secret conference in Paris have begun to achieve more to study harmonising anti-in this field than they yet terrorism laws and speeding terrorism laws and speeding up extradition procedures, ac-

expert. Roland Jacquard, head of cluded stronger cooperation the International Observa-by police and customs; tory of Terrorism, told Reutory of Terrorism, told Reu-ters that France's Jean-Louis Debre hosted a meeting on October 22. "Justice and police repre-

sentatives from the United States were also present. The ministers set up a working group on harmonising antiterrorism laws and on speed-

Power to impose deficit penalties rests with council of ministers

Although all countries which join the monetary union will be expected eventually — to run balanced THR single currency stabudgets, they will be allowed to run deficits of up to 3 per bility pact agreed in Dubsterday will hand cent of GDP in any year. They will be permitted to exceed these limits only if they can ministers to determine the fate of countries that take if a country taking part in economic and monetary union breaks the terms of the single currency "growth and stability pact", the council could impose huge financial penalties. Much of the 11th hour negotiations before the agreement focused on the cir-

Natural disasters, acts of God and other unforeseeable developments could justify limits at least temporarily. But the difficult question was just how severe a normal economic crisis would have to be before a country with an "excumstances that might justify a country's exceeding the tough budget disciplines set out in the Maastricht treaty. cessive deficit" was accorded

a similar indulgence. out in the Maastricht treaty.

The answer agreed in DubBut at the heart of the issue
was a German attempt to
limit the powers of ministers

that it suffered an annual fall of real GDP of 2 per cent or more. In recent decades there

serious economic recession, but a country pleading for special treatment will still have to show that its circum-stances are "nevertheless exther supporting evidence, in particular on the abruptness of the downturn or the accu-

tive to past irends." In a binding political declaration, EU governments have agreed that this will normally only require an annual fall in GDP of at least 0.75 per cent. In this event the European Commission will make a report to the council of ministers on whether there is a sure of the financial "temporary and exceptional case for relaxing the rules. markets. circumstances." The council will then make a liconical decision on a qualified major-

ity vote.
The tortuous compromise is designed to alleviate fears, particularly in Germany, that the single currency might be too soft, and to prove that the EU will be tough on countries running up huge deficits. By carefully ensuring that the final word on sanctions remains a matter for political decision, the pact can be pre-sented in France and elsewhere as a defeat for the idea of automatic sanctions.

None of the provisions of

have been only a dozen or so examples of countries hit by such a severe drop in output.

However, the stability pact goes on to say that waiving of the budget deficit limits budget deficit are the budget deficit and least the conditions of the stability pact will apply to countries which do not join the single currency. But the strict financial targets set for acceptable budget deficits are the budget deficits are bound to influence the atti-tude of the international financial markets towards non-

spendthrift.
Although the German government originally argued for open fines linked to the amount above 3 per cent of ment is for a maximum penalty of 0.5 per cent of a coun-

try's GDP.
"The terms of this pact might seem tough," an EU official said last night. "But the single currency may be hit far harder by the massive can result from the displea-

Ironically, the arguments about the single currency's precise budget deficit limits may be overtaken by an EUwide review of economic statistics, which is due to report

in two years. Because of the growing importance of the service sector. perticularly in information technology, all EU countries may find that their actual GDP levels are higher than the current figures — in which case the relative importance of their budget defi-cits will decrease as a percentage of GDP.



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'Soulless' euro note finds few friends among future users

to waive or dilute the sanc-tions in the stability pact.

David Sharrock on a Dublin cash course

F the voices of the most enthusiastically Euro-pean nation in the Union are to be believed, then the dream of a single currency finally foundered in Dublin

yesterday.
Within moments of the launch of the new euro — seven gaudy notes in de-nominations from five to five hundred — the plain people of Ireland were denouncing them in the earthy language of the Citi-zen, the anti-hero of James

whom Dublin's day at the epicentre of the European dream was going on far too leng. "Y'mean we'll be spending these in 2001? Well I'm not for it," he said as he hurried across the

Halfpenny Bridge. The bar tariff in the Auld Dubliner in Temple Bar claimed a pint of stout costs 2.69 euros. The Irish Government is spending £300,000 to promote the

mentally more conscious nowadays. All the old notes would be chopped up and buried in the ground."

The outgoing notes would include a small number of £1

million ones used solely for internal accounting purposes

If Britain accepted the timetable for first wave countries.

euros would become curency

on January 1, 2002, with ster-

at the Bank of England.

wasted who cared? Since joining the European club

in 1973 the republic has received £24 billion. Beyond a set of crash-bar-riers lay Dublin Castle, the venue for the meeting of 26 European leaders, 1,000 senior EU officials, 2,000 journalists and 400 Irish staff — the largest free bar opened on Irish soil. A major turn-off for the

stitute (EMI), Alexandre Lanfaleussy. "The diffi-culty with people is that the normal tradition of banknotes is to take a personal-ity and these people usually belong to a country," be explained. "We would have fallen back into the nation-

'I'd rather stick with what we've got, these just have no personality." said 17-year-old Joanna Mattryear-old Joanna Mat-thews. Ah there they go again, the plain people of Europe getting it wrong. According to the EMI, a sample of 2,000 individuals had rated them highly. Not bad from a Euro-population of 380 million.

One feature of the euro which made Irish eyes smile, however, was the tiny space reserved for a national symbol. The pleasure came from watching the British tabloids working themselves into a frenzy over the Queen's head being shrunk to a fraction of its size on the sterling note. There was no zen, the anti-hero of James
Joyce's Ulysses.

"I wouldn't wipe my arse
with one," was the unequivocal response of a hink that was a waste of the European Monetary in
"I wouldn't wipe my arse
the wouldn't wipe my arse
it will not replace the punt
of human beings on the
fraction of its size on the
euro notes. Deliberate, acshortage of volunteers to
shortage of volunteers to

Bank ready to bury £19bn as cash trade welcomes change

Owen Bowcott

HE Bank of England could replace all £19 billion of notes in circulation with euro currency "as a matter of routine", it said yesterday.
If Britain joined the first

wave of monetary union, sterling notes would be shredded, pulped and dumped in landfill sites during the year 2002. The euro notes which

would replace them have been designed to be compatible with the cash dispensers operated by all high street banks and building societies. "We have carried out simi-

ling withdrawn by July 1. In that six-month interim period, both currencies would be in open circulation.

NCR, which manufactures 80 per cent of Britain's 20,000 lar operations replacing notes cash dispensers, said it would be possible to set their manotes," a Bank of England spokeswoman said yesterday.

"We used to burn the old one to deliver euro notes"

notes, but we are environ- | would take no more than an) The new currency has been

welcomed in the industry as

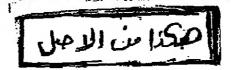
euros incorporate security there are, for example, 56.1 features making it easier for million £1 notes still to be machines to count deposits. redeemed.

As for the outgoing notes, the Bank of England that they would be honoured long after the changeover date -



"I have a one point plan to save the country. Abolish the licensing laws." Josh Astor

The Week page 15



Ghanaian gets nod as French drop objections

Annan to be UN secretary-general

Mark Tran in New York

OFI ANNAN of Ghana was anointed as the next secre-tary-general of the United Nations by the Security Council yesterday, after France dropped its opposition to a man who has spent al-most half his life at the UN.

The end of a week-long impasse, caused by a French "non" in a round of straw polls, was announced by Britain's UN envoy, Sir John Weston, before a mass of reporters, diplomats and glaring television lights outside the UN Security Council France had objected to Mr Annan because he could not

speak French, but put an end to its blocking tactics after be-

to its blocking tactics after behind-the-scenes arm twisting from some of the UN's most powerful members.

The outgoing secretary-general, the Egyptian Bourros Boutros Ghali, said he was pleased that Africa would have a second five-year term at the helm. Mr Annan had been remineted because the en nominated because the United States vetoed a second term for Mr Boutros-Ghali.

The choice of Mr Annan as the world's top diplomat caps a 30-year career within the organisation that has given the 58-year-old Ghanaian an intimate knowledge of the UN, from budgetary matters

to peacekeeeping. Born in Kumasi, Ghana, Mr Annan had not planned on a lifelong career at the organi-sation he will now head. "I did not set out with the intention of working for the UN," he said last year. "I was looking forward to going home after I had finished my postgraduate studies, then I was presented with the opportunity of working with the World Health Organisation in Geneva for a couple of years

and here I am today." Mr Annan has enjoyed a teady rise through the UN

Bosnia conflict that first thrust him into the public eye. Although faulted by some for a lack of charisma, his coolness under fire and his straightforward style earned

him the respect of those who dealt with him. He is currently under-secre tary general for peacekeeping operations, a position he has held since 1993, but previously worked in various administrative positions - including a spell as assistant



presence at top of the UN

secretary general for programme planning, budget and finance.

to restore morale among staff members demoralised by the damage inflicted to the UN's reputation by the war in Bosreputation by the war in Bos-nia, during which the organi-sation was made the scape-goat for the diplomatic shortcomings of Britain, France and the US. The deba cle in Bosnia followed the illfated nation-building exercise in Somalia, where the UN was forced to pull out with its tail

His other urgent task is to act as an effective chief

pecially to an indifferent American popula

This was a job for which Mr Boutros Ghali, despite his acknowledged intellect, proved to be weefully under-qualified. Mr Annan has acknowledged that the UN has suffered from a public relations I do not blame the public

for not seeing the problems we face. As an organisation we have not told our story well." he said. "People talk of the fallings of the UN, forget-ting that we have had many success stories. Look at what happened in Namibia, Mo-zambique, Cambodia and in South Africa during the elec-tions, where we played a major role."

In New York, the UN's financial crisis, due mainly to a US refusal to pay \$1.4 billion in arrears, has also contrib-uted to feelings of despon-dency. One reason why Mr Annan received the Clinton its hope that he will help win over Republicans on Capitol Hill and pull the UN out of its Mr Annan is a popular

choice with UN officials, who disliked the autocratic and remote Mr Boutros-Ghalf. "I hoped he would get the job, he was the best of the lot," said one UN official. But other have reservations about Mr Annan's leadership qualities, especially given his spotty

There are also lingering doubts as to whether his mildmannered, soft-spoken character can stand up to the bul-lying tactics of the big powers. For all his faults, Mr Boutros-Ghali was no wallflower when dealing with the five permanent council mem-bers — one reason the US wanted to see the back of him. "If Mr Annan has one weakness, it's his eagerness to please," a UN diplomat said.



A purpose-built road lets Israelis avoid Palestinian areas when travelling to West Bank settlements north of Jerusalem

Likud tempts more settlers with cash

cided yesterday to channel millions of tlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
The 150,000 settlers will get

"priority A" status, which will entitle them to generous tax concessions and government grants.

The arrangement should encourage other Israelis to move to the occupied territo-

the incentives will swell the number of settlers to more than 500,000 by the end of the

Nabil Abu Rdaineh, a spokesman in Gaza for the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, said the decision endangered the peace process.
"This is an escalation of the situation," he said. "This could destroy the peace

A rally in Khan Younis of more than 20,000 supporters of the Islamic resistance movement Hamas called for

A leaflet distributed at the rally by the military wing, Izzedin Qassam, invoked the bombings against Israel before being assassinated, pre sumably by Israeli agents,

earlier this year.

It said: "Our response to the martyrdom of Yehiya Ayash . painful.

that police were on full alert for new terrorist attacks.

streets have been cordoned off around the Shalom Tower, the tallest building in Tel Aviv and thought to be a desirable and obvious target for Meanwhile the Damascus

based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which has claimed responsibility for Wed-Bank town of Hebron of two Jewish settlers, a mother and her 12-year-old son, called on Palestinians to launch a new intifada against Israel. George Habash, the ageing

paign against Israel. He told a rally at the Yarmuk refugee camp near Damascus: "The expansion of settlements requires the masses to renew the intifada against Israel." The PFLP hopes that disen-

chanted supporters of Mr Arafat's mainstream Fatah his police force will join the Damascus-based Palestinian Rejectionist Front, an um-brella organisation of 10 radical Palestinian groups, in-cluding both Hamas and the

Castro hands White House a potent peace offering

Richard Thomas

THE UNITED States has received an unusual peace offering from President Fidel Castro of Cuba: ix tons of high-grade Colombian cocaine.

The Clinton administration has been trying to rebuild relations with Ha-vana, but officials were taken aback by Cuba's handover of a narcotics

Wilfredo Fernandez, & spokesman for the US attorney's office, said the Cuban officials who found the cocaine in a Colombian freighter, the Limerick, might testify in the US

The US coastguard had to abandon a search of the ship when it began to sink. The crew were detained on suspicion of drug smuggling, but the case seemed closed when the ship drifted into Cuban waters. The two countries have

no formal diplomatic relations. The US has accused President Castro of being in cahoots with Colombian drng cartels, and the Helms-Burton act, which penalises those trading with Cuba,

has widened divisions.
But two congressional delegations visited Cuba this week, and news of the co-operation prompted hopes that Cuba may be reversing its hostility to the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Clinton spurns critics of Reno

RESIDENT Clinton announced a further wave of cabinet appointments yesterday and, overruling the doubts of his political advisers, reappointed Janet Reno as attorney-general.

The advisers were worried

ready to appoint independent counsel to investigate senior administration members. In keeping her, Mr Clinton has signalled that he is not too worried by the prospects of legal action arising from the Whitewater scandal.

Mr Clinton also announced that Congressman Bill Rich-ardson of New Mexico would replace Madeleine Albright as ambassador to the United Nations.

Despite his surname, Mr Richardson is a leading member of the Hispanic commu nity, raised in Mexico City by his Mexican mother.

A freelance diplomat who

has secured the release of US citizens held in North Kores, and last week in Sudan. Mr Richardson is a warm supporter of the UN and human rights and a leading critic of the Burmese governme As a former member of the

House of Representatives, Mr Richardson is thought to have the United Nations.

The power of the Daley dy-

nasty of Chicago was enendary mayor and brother of the current mayor, to be secretary of commerce. The Republicans have slackened their efforts to close this vast sprawl of a ministry, which ranges from the census and the weather bureau to weights and measures and domestic and foreign trade.

Called in three years ago to nanage the effort to steer the North American Free Trade agreement through Congress, Mr Daley is expected to con-tinue the late Ron Brown's efforts to turn the commerce department into a hard-sell-

ing export agency.

Despite some legal difficulties, Mr Clinton has nominated Charlene Barshefsky as US trade representative. Having represented Canadian timber interests as a lawyer in private practice, she will need a special waiver of the law which excludes anyone from the USTR job who has

A tough negotiator, known in Japan as "the dragon lady", she has scored some successes in brinkmanship with the Chinese government. Mrs Barshefsky enjoys a love-hate relationship with her European counterpart, Sir Leon Brittain, Earlier this a better chance of persuading year he accused her of "talk-lion (£875 million) which the US owes in contributions to the United Notice of the test of take him to dinner and make

Tigers beat the South African heat wave



A game warden, Johnny Fourie, watches tigers Ben (left) and Gal from a nearby zoo as they frolic and cool off at the Hartebeespoort dam, near Pretoria, in the South African mid-summer beat wave

ANC cadres apply for

Agencies in Pretoria

ters and a deputy 60 members of the ruling African National Congress who applied for amnesty to South Africa's post-apartheid Truth and Reconciliation Commission yesterday, the party's spokes man Ronnie Mamoepa said. He declined to specify the

HREE cabinet minis-

offences for which Joe Mo-dise, Jay Naidoo, and Sydney Mufamadi — ministers respectively for defence, telecommunications and police and the deputy defence minis-ter, Ronnie Kasrils, were

eeking amnesty.
Some ANC leaders have argued that veterans of the ANC's guerrilla army do not need amnesty for actions that were part of "a just war". President Nelson Mandela

extended the cut-off date for amnesty yesterday, making people who committed politi-cal crimes any time before his inauguration as president on May 10 1994 eligible. The preber 6 1993, when a multiracial to end white rule. What Mr Mandela described

as "one of the most difficult

Bishop Desmond Tutu, the chairman of the commission, had asked for extensions to allow more people to be

The Freedom Front leader, Constand Viljoen, once com-mander of apartheid armed forces, wanted the date moved so that amnesty could be con-sidered for white extremist bombers convicted of killing at least 21 people in the run-up to the all-race elections in April 1994, and others who plotted a coup at the time of the poll.

He was "delighted" by the extension and would be applying for amnesty for acts of sistance before the election The extension will also cover the fatal shooting of eight people by ANC security guards during a Zulu demon-stration in March 1994. Mr Mandela also extended

the deadline for applications for amnesty — which was due to expire at midnight tonight until May 10 1997. Ruaridh Nicoll adds from Jo-

hamesburg: Dr Allan Boesak, former head of the World Council of Churches and am-bassador-designate to the UN, is to return to South Africa from the US to stand trial on fraud and theft charges relat-ing to missing Danish aid. As an anti-apartheid campaigner, he convinced the world's

News in brief

35 held in bank siege

welcomes chi

We a one post

kensing laus

to save the

Two people received bullet wounds when a disgruntled former bank employee held 35 people hostage in a Paris office yesterday, writes Alex Duval Smith in Paris.

Police said the man, who was arrested after a two-hour siege in Boulevard Haussmann, was a former employee, but they did not give his name or details of his grudge against AD Capital

Turncoat's salary Balduccio di Maggio, the

turncoat who has accused the former Italian prime minister Giulio Andreotti of kissing the Mafia's "boss of bosses" said at Mr Andreotti's trial in Rome yesterday that he had received £200,000 in official money since turning state's evidence. - Reuter.

Runway mishap An Iberia Airlines jet with 103 passengers slid off the runway at Barajas airport, Spain, Passengers said rescue personnel were slow to react to their plight — AP.

Burma lashes out

Burma and the United States tangled yesterday when Rangoon prevented a US diplomat, Kent Wiedemann, from meeting the opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and accused Washington of inter-fering in Burma's internal affairs. — Reuter.

Smile Singapore

As part of a "Smile Singapore" campaign to make tour-ists feel loved, Singapore im-migration officers have been given mirrors to check the quality of their expressions. — New York Times.

Gunmen's victims Tribal militants fighting for autonomy in Kalayanpur villaga, Tripura state, north-east India, gunned down 22 people and set fire to houses. — AP.

Law firm curbs China is planning new curbs on foreign law firms that

while landing in a rainstorm. | would limit their business and raise operating costs, for-eign lawyers and businessmen said yesterday. The curbs would ban the hiring of Chinese nationals as lawyers or legal assistants. - Reuter.

Death row plea

The Pope has made a personal plea to the United States to spare Joseph O'Dell, a death row inmate just days away from a lethal injection in Virginls, who says he has new DNA evidence that proves his cence. — Reuter.

Rat killers' party A dance is to be held in Cabatuan, floilo province, Philippines, as part of a campaign to control field rais that are ruining many acres of crops.

rat tails. — AP.

Name of the game Manhattan Plaza, Monte Carlo Villas and other foreign names have been banned in Canton, south China, in an effort to promote Chinese culture, an official report said

Tanzania forces out Hutu refugees

Chris McGreal in Johannesburg

ANZANIAN troops drove tens of thou sands of Rwandan Hutu refugees towards their homeland yesterday after preventing them from fleeing deeper into Tanzania and sealing off camps which the government wants closed before the end of the month. Several thousand refugee crossed into Rwanda, but many more refused, storming

military cordon in an effort to get back into the camps. Large numbers are still walking towards Zambia, Malawi The entrance "fee" will be 50 and Kenya in an attempt to escape repatriation. Since Thursday about 400,000 refugees have left the camps which have been their

home for more than two

Tanzanian army Colonel Urbano Nguvumali told refumes at a roadblock between Benaco and Lumasi that they would not be allowed to go my further into Tanzania. "Go back to the camps and you will get fed," he said. "We

don't want you here. We want

you to go back,"the colonel

But when the refugees approached Benaco, soldiers told them they could not rekeep walking to Rwanda.

Although several thousand

gave up and returned to their bomeland, many more tried to break through the army cordon around the camp. Hundreds dropped their bun-dles of belongings on the roadside and sprinted across vegetable fields to reach

Soldiers wielding sticks years.
Yesterday soldiers turned back about 50,000 Rwandans who had fied Benaco camp.

kept others at bay. Tens of thousands more were turned back at other roadblocks. But Billeveld, who was in charge of the UN plan to entice the

many are still on the move, and in which direction. The exodus from the camps appears to have been orgaised. Refueee leaders duped the United Nations into believing the Rwandans were going to cross the border in an attempt to ensure that they received their fortnightly

ration of red beans, corn and

'It is clear that the militias have spooked the refugees'

cooking oil before they left. Many refugees prepared for the march by harvesting crops and selling off their be longings to Tanzanians.

lieved the refugees were now heading back voluntarily to their camps because they were no longer under the con-trol of the extremist Hutu militias which led the 1994 genocide.

"It's clear that the [Hutu militants] have spooked the refugees, and they are using these people as shields," said Peter Kessler, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in

But whether the militias are in control or not, many refugees appear reluctant to return to their homeland. The 50.000 from Benaco who turned back yesterday only did so when confronted by Tanzanian soldiers. And most appeared to want to return to their camps, not to Rwanda. The Tanzanian home affairs minister, Ali Ameir Mohamed, said his govern-

ment still expected all Rwan-

efugees home.

UN officials said they be end of the year. The UNHCR has backed that demand, despite criticism that it amounts to an illegal forced

repatriation.

Most of the refugees who began fleeing their camps on Thursday were going to the hills of the Burigi Game counter wildlife including lions and elephants. A spokes women for the World Food Programme, Michele Quintaglie, said wild animals could pose a threat to the refugees, but pointed out that some refugees had already been hiding in the park for more than two years.

"These people have been living outside their country since 1994," she said. They're survivors." The first group of Rwan-

dans fleeing Tanzania arrived in Zambia yesterday after crossing Lake Tanganyika. The UNHCR said it believed many more were following

H-test sailors find a voice

The decision by New Zealand's government to fund a lawsuit by servicemen exposed to British atomic tests in the 1950s could provoke a diplomatic furore. **Ed Vulliamy** reports

government agreed yesterday to fund a class action lawsuit planned by ex-ser-vicemen exposed to British atomic bomb tests in the South Pacific during the late

The decision delighted Brit-ish and New Zealand bombtest victims, who have campaigned for 39 years for compensatory pensions. But there is a twist: leaders of New Zealand's veterans were unsure early this morning whether the lawsuit would now advance against the government in Wellington which is funding it, or against the British government, thereby creating a diplomatic storm. Roy Sefton, chairman of the

New Zealand Nuclear Test Veterans' Association, said: "We are delighted because after four decades our cause is being treated seriously. So New Zealand's

ironically with the situation of British ex-servicemen

initiative contrasts

far, our petitions have been sgainst the NZ government. But now it seems logical that we are being offered money to sue the British."

About 600 New Zealand navy personnel were present at up to nine hydrogen bomb tests, mainly at Christmes and Malden Islands in 1957 and 1958. Many sailors had radiation burns when they returned to New Zealand, and have died of leukaemia and other cancers at a rate up to five times higher than the nuclear fallout. He said a sucgeneral population

children; other children have contracted adult strains of

The campaign for special pensions stems from the refusal of past New Zealand governments to place the crews on pensions because they did not consider cancer a service injury. Now, the vet-erans are being paid by that same government to pursue their claim, against Britain if

Apart from being what New Zealand's high commissioner In London, John Collinge, agency, Peter Matheson, fur-called "a novel move", the ther infuriated British veter-

HE New Zealand | plan is a challenge to the Brit-government agreed | ish government and Ministry yesterday to fund a | of Defence. British ex-serviceor Desence. British ex-service-men exposed to the bomb tests are trying to put their government on trial in Stras-bourg, having been snubbed in Britain. A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said last night: "Obviously we can-not comment on New Zea-land There are no plane for land. There are no plans for

any such thing by us". Yesterday's initiative was an extraordinary first result of the opening parliamentary session of the new coalition government between the New Zealand First party of Win-ston Peters and the National

NZ First had argued that the government should fund H-bomb test veterans in pursuit of their claim. Mr Peters, now deputy prime minister, was reported to favour an international action against

Britain.
On Thursday, Mr Peters said he "had an agreement with the National [Party] to finance a class action for all of those people who were a victim of the Christmas Island nuclear testing."
The New Zealand veterans

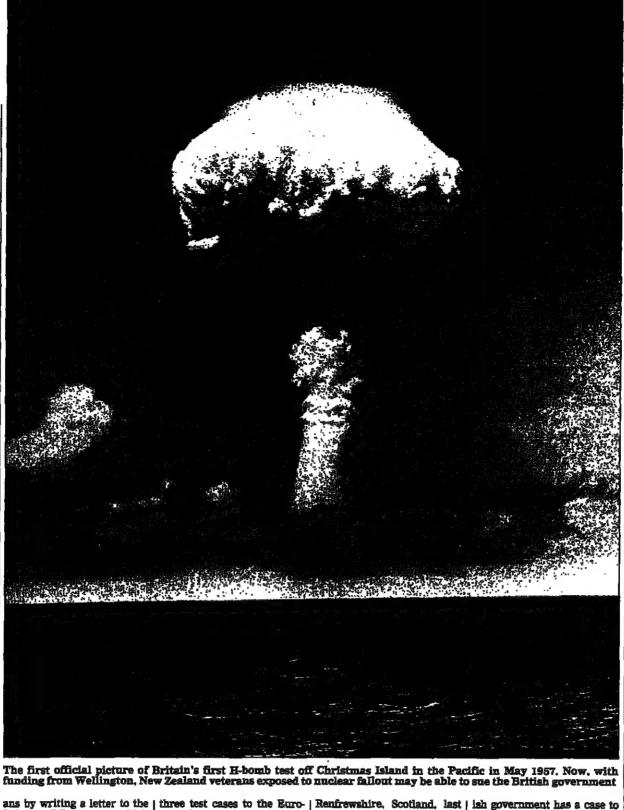
concerned were in the weather observation frigates Pukaki and Rotoiti. Their representatives say both vessels were 25 miles from "ground zero" when the blasts were detonated.

The veterans' association has campaigned vocally for maximum compensation, surveying veterans for signs of irradiation and genetic problems in offspring. Three strains of cancer appeared at above average rates: multiple

myeloma, leukaemia and polycythemia rubra vera. "It's damn good news," said Ken Brake, one of the 600 who claim they were exposed to eneral population. cessful class action would Several have fathered address injustices harboured ows and put an end to the po-litical sidestepping of veterans' health issues. New Zealand's initiative

contrasts sharply and ironically with the situation of British ex-servicemen ex-posed to the H-bomb tests. In 1993 the National Radio logical Protection Board said there was no evidence that veterans of atmospheric nuclear weapons tests were at On August 16 1994 the chief

executive of the war pensions



Labour MP Doug Hoyle which said: "The Secretary of State has decided that the normal policy will be to reject any claim now for a war pension for multiple myeloma but to accept any new claim in respect of leukaemia if the test participants developed the condition within 25 years

of first participation." British veterans have taken

pean Court of Human Rights night: "We are delighted in Strasbourg, including a about what has been done for serviceman's daughter who contracted acute myeloid leu-full support to the action kaemia — an adult strain at the age of four. Leading the action is Ken McGinley, who witnessed five bomb tests and was pensioned out of the navy with a duodenal ulcer a year

He said from his home in

the New Zealanders. We give full support to the action taken by the New Zealand government, and wish the veterans good luck in their pursuit of justice."

admissible, and that the Brit- Ian Anderson, said.

the commission cleared the way for a full review of the exposure of British service-men to radiation. The judgment also ordered a review of the Government's "attempts to defeat war pensions claims The European Commission of Human Rights ruled that the British vetarans' case is men", the veterans' lawyer,

Moscow basks in snowless Indian summer

David Hearst in Moscow

PRING onions are Sprouting. Worms are wriggling in the warm soil. Ice rinks are black patches of scrubland and the streets resound to the rasp of rollerskates. Ice fishermen look mourafully at the unforce Moscow. at the unfrozen Moscow river racing past.

It is mid-December and still no snow. So far, this month — and November before it — have proved the mildest since Hydromet. the Russian weather cen-tre, began taking measurements 117 years ago. To be precise, it has been 5.3C warmer in European Rus-sia than the average November temperature of mi-

nus 1.9C.
And where is the clean white snow to cover the filth of Moscow's streets? The lack of snow has also broken all records. To count as serious snow — and Russians are serious about their snow - it has to lle on the ground for five days. There have been sleet, hail and snow flurries, but no "real snow".

The unusual weather has made Russia's weathermen take a distinctly anti-West-ern stance. Anatoli Yakov-Atlantic. frost maker Farmers are predicting the roads."

the failure of crops sown in the autumn. Without snow to protect them, the seedlings will die in the next

hard frost.
Looking on the bright side, Igor Nazarov, deputy director of the Institute of Global Climate and Ecologreenhouse gases will market.

double. Permafrost, which occupies 58 per cent of the territory, will start to melt.

A fellow trader, who had only dried mushrooms for sale, sald: "Sure, old wom-In the central part of Rus-sia good conditions will ap-come from Chernobyl."

pear for agriculture, while there will be drought in the United States and it will be their turn to sweat to get

Oleg and his daughter Annya are equally happy.
They have a voracious pet
rabbit sharing their tworoom Moscow flat and the
fresh grass from the park is much cheaper than the

American pet food. Anna Ivanovna, aged 69, is one of an army of cleaners who spend the winter scrapping and hacking at the ice and walls of snow in courtyards. She is still

Streets are not being cleaned at all. 'It's certainly cheaper'

gaily sweeping away leaves from staircase entrances. But Alexander Timo. fever, deputy head of the Moscow road sweeping department, is on 24-hour alert. "We can't begin the winter cleaning of the town because there is no snow, and we can't continue washing the streets with water, because one frost and it will be a skating rink. But nor can we brush blamed a warm current of air from the central frost makes the dirt stick to

In other words, the streets are not being cleaned at all. "It's certainly cheaper." Mr Timo-

gy, is predicting a rosy Kaluga, about 60 miles future for Russia. "In 50 south of Moscow, sold some years time the volume of in the capital's Butirski

New hunt begins for bodies of missing Belgian children

Bert Lauwers in Brussels

ELGIAN police acting on new hunt yesterday in the southern town of Charleroi for the bodies of children who have gone missing in the past seven years, who may be vic-tims of a paedophile ring.

Commander Johan Dewinne, who heads the Gendarmerie's body identification team, said the police were looking for several bodies. He was more hopeful of finding victims than during a search in October, based on information from Marc Dutroux the chief suspect and a con-victed child rapist — which

Police searched a scrap metal yard, towing away sevattention on four houses basements might b linked to an underground tunnel

to that the

3Kn

The VTM television station said that Dutroux and his second wife Michelle Martin had once lived in one of the houses. It added that guns

had been found yesterday.

A police spokesman said
the searches had stopped at nightfall but would resume at daybreak today. Belgium has been in shock

since August when Dutroux and several alleged accom-plices were arrested. Dutroux subsequently led police to the bodies of four girls. — Reuter.



Motor Insurance not available in Northern Ireland.

News in brief

OSCE 'cannot verify Serbian elections'

TUGOSLAVIA invited to obtain what he called "true information" on the elections, which took place nearly a month ago.

But the OSCE chief spokesbia, but officials said the terms of the invitation meant it would be unable to verify

the results of the polls. The Organisation for Secu-rity and Co-operation in Europe welcomed a request from the Yugoslav foreign minister, Milan Milutinovic.

woman, Melissa Fleming, said that nowhere in the letter was the body called on to check the results of the elections, in which, the Zajedno opposition said, the socialists suffered their worst defeat in 50 years of unbroken rule. —

Kuwaiti prince meets Pope

THE Crown Prince of Ku-wait — which unlike Saudi Arabia allows Chris-tian churches on its territory — met the Pope at the Vatican yesterday for what were described as cordial talks.

The audience with Sheikh Saad al-Abdulla al-Sabah was the first such some humanitarian meeting since 1969, when Kuwait became the first Gulf Arab state to establish diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

The Kuwaiti news agency, KUNA, said earlier this month that Kuwait had approved a Vatican request to open an embassy. Vati-can interests in Kuwait and other Gulf states are currently represented by its ambassador to Lebanon. The Pope's foreign minis-

ter, Monsignor Jean-Louis Tauran, who visited Kuwait last month, has com-pared religious freedom in Kuwait favourably with "other situations in the region". The country has a 100,000, mainly foreign workers. — Reuter.

Iran 'arming Hizbullah'

RAN is sending at least three consignments of arms in Boeing 747s to Syria each month for shipment to the Hizbullah militia in Lebanon in an effort to upgrade the arms used by its allies, Pentagon and United States intelli-

The consignments contain some humanitarian supplies but are dominated by weapons, including Russian-made Sagger anti-tank mis-siles, used by Hizbullah against Israel in the past two months. Israeli intelligence says

that Hizbullah is also receiving Katyusha rockets. They have been modified by Iran to increase their range to 25 miles — far enough to strike Haifa, Israel's third largest Iran's consignments are

a significant increase in sup-ply lines to Hizbullah since Israel's 16-day Grapes of Wrath offensive against the Lebanese militia in April.

now "very intense", according to the Pentagon, and mark

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With candour and charm

eves steadily transmitting ing, slightly diabolical eyebrows — and warm light

He was a charmer as broadcaster and writer, just as much as in his social encounters, and it may have been that his reputation as a writer actually suffered a little with a certain kind of reader because of it. Especially in his later work, it sometimes generated an odd atmosphere, a bit manic, a bit anxious around the edges of extraordinarily gifted and emotionally candid autobiographical writing which ought to be firmly in-stalled in whatever English pantheon there might be for

Having said that, I should add that most of these books were loved by some of his bes contemporaries among British writers, for their acknowl-edged craft, but not least as a edged crart, but not least as a special bonus, an extension of the company of the clever, quizzical man they so much enjoyed. William Trevor and Beryl Bainbridge were two of them; the poet P J Kavanagh another.

Sorry Dad (1978) is probably the volume which most read-ers who didn't bridle at the charm will remember and cherish best, Blishen's own particular Father and Son for a lower middle-class suburban English childhood of the 1920s teased for his bowler hat by his more easy-going hand-working brothers, was a school on the Manchester minor civil servant, seriously philistine and deeply upset by spends more and more of his time listening to classical count of the no doubt still not music, reading Lawrence and quite ordinary writing he did music, reading Lawrence and Huxley and everything else ambitious he could lay his hands on, and generally giving himself would-be dashing airs of intellect and style. airs of intellect and style.

It is not an unfamiliar tale of its time, made extraordilism journalist JRL Andernary by the combination of son who by the time I arrived sublety in the writing and at the Guardian was established.

DWARD Blishen, which Edward recovered the who has died of cancer aged 76, was a terrific charmer, with his faun-looks the morth large of labour politics and much else. Probably John Anderson was the midwife to his scornful paternal outburst, the son retired at speed to his the son retired at speed to his standily to the son retired at speed to his speed to his standily to the son retired at speed to his standily to the son retired at speed to his speed to the son retired at speed to his bed — and diary — shorting "Tll kill you! I'll kill you!). It also balances perfectly the recovered emotional world of the nine- and 13-year-old with what the author in his fiftles

can see as he looks back. These autobiographies alone are a large body of valuable work, more than enough for the ceuvre of many writers, but they are hardly the half of Blishen's, which included serious editing and cluded serious editing and compiling of dictionaries and authologies of writing for the young, a decade and a half of important work for the BBC's
African service, and years of
intelligent and unsnobbish literary broadcasting on Radio
4's A Good Read and

ment with a shrewd and the world amusing little portrait of his tribesmen. old hero on this page much

he spent a cold and often pretty miserable war working on the land; see A Cackhanded War (1972) for the details, which included a landlady

The landlady for a time pamperingly mothered Blishen and three other "conchie" mudlarks but still kept a vase

with four white feathers on her mantelpiece

out the teaching which occu-pied him in his thirties and the funny, humane, groundbreaking writing about it which was where many older readers of this newspaper first came across him. I am not sure, but I think the sketches he wrote about the unfamiliar - to much of the British read-Guardian's Miscellany page, were his first creative pub-lished work.

I say creative to take ac-

there that he met, and was much impressed by that bril-liant journalist JRL Andersubjety in the writing and at the Guardian was estab-emotional candour with lished as an assistant editor in

who for a time pamperingly mothered Blishen and three other "conchie" mudlarks but still kept a vase with four white feathers on her mantelplece. At another time, the nights were often spent, as

Norman Shrapnel noted in his review, "defending his soul from the designs of the Partic-ular People, Exclusive Brethren and other religious enthu-siasts who shared his hostel Even such a list is to leave | dormitory.

the second morning, 'Is open

absolutely real life Nancy.)
Given his insight into his

own childhood and his pass-

He did not just survive his tough teaching; he appreciated it. He became a civilising influence on children of all sorts in what was a bleak period. His reviews and talks and the antibologies he edited, of prose and poetry, held up a standard of what should be provided.

I remember his part in a discussion on some narrative Another later autobiographical instalment A Nest Of Teachers (1980) remembers the time that followed at Isladen Emergency Teachers Training College ("What we have to learn to do", said Mr Trellis on the windows in the souls of the children we teach'"), and three years of prep school teaching fortified by the com-pany of his wife Kate. (In sionate writerly curiosity about whatever the world pregirl — by pointing out that this was just in a different English literary tradition. sented to him, he must have been a marvellous teacher, as most readers of *Rooring Boys* (1955) could not have doubted.

This was his first book based on his Guardian pieces and the one which began to estab-It may seem a pity that Edward never wrote his own fiction for children. He did lish him both as a writer and as a recorder of what another good writer and educational

colleagues to Bunyan.

the world of New Guinea

It showed already in abundance the qualities, beyond the large gift of words, that those of us who admired him and loved him and his work most valued; "tenderness and ordinariness" as Brian Jack son called it, a tender valuing after all. It was his particular after all. It was ms particular way of being an artist in life, which is part of what gives many of his autobiographical instalments the dense, imagi-

the time that Rouring Boys was published I used to meet was paintained I used to meet Edward Blishen in radio studios, when I was a producer I once congratulated him on his camness in front of the microphone. He said he learned in the classroom never to show fear.

He did not just survive his tough task hore.

discussion on some narrative writing by two different children, one had a sophisticated style, with rich vocabulary and complex constructions. People praised this and, contrarywise, criticised the other narrative for its almost perverse plainness. Edward sprung to the defence of the writer - a

however collaborate with Leon Garfield on two books of Sue Roberts adds: I had been



Beneath The Sea (1970) and The Golden Shadow (1972). We wanted someone new to The first won them jointly the present it. I knew of Edward Carnegie Medal for an outstanding work of literature for children. And it is a tribute to Edward's sweetness of temper and the depth of his intelligence that he could so successfully collaborate with Gerfield, a close friend but also a headlong genius.

explorer, the late Brian Jack | Greek myths, The God | producing A Good Read for

we wanted someone new to present it. I knew of Edward Blishen through his work for the World Service and we met for the first time in the downstairs coffee bar of the Royal Festival Hall. This really striking man with wonderful eyebrows turned up. He was immediately engaging with a genuine enthusiasm for liter-ature — he loved books and he communicated that joy of words not in an academic

with him was a complete pleasure. He would go off and read four books and be able to quote whole sections, pulling quotes out of his head. As a broadcaster he was absolutely one of the best. His enthusiasm for the subject came over on radio in a way that made gramme and everyone who met him loved him.

When I saw him for the

Working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working on that first series of the working of t David Copperfield to him. He derived absolute joy from hearing passages of Dickens and would laugh his head off. Blishen was a natural racon-teur and story-teller and you listen. He loved the pro- that's what made him such a

final time last week he said, and broadcester, born April 29, "You know, when you are 1920; died December 13, 1996

John Hardbattle

megion for hedit

Beiter en oftildte

The Khwe's champion

has died of cancer ages 51, straddled worlds so different that he had no contemporary. The son of an contemporary. The son of an ico land on which they have hunted, gathered and occanius tswana and a Khwe or Bushmen mother, his background gave him an insight into the world of the Bushmen and into the wider world, and the ability to be at home in both. He used his unique position to become a spokesman and leader without equal among the Khwe of Botswana in their fight to protect their lands from encroachment by settler farmers. His father was a former

City of London policeman who had bought a farm in Ghanzi, Botswana, and at the age of 62 fell in love with a 16year-old Khwe woman. John was their second child.

OHN Hardbattle, who people of southern Africa, has died of cancer aged whose numbers have been 51. straddled worlds so slashed by more than three sionally raised livestock. Despite the utopian portrayal of them in films such as The Gods Must Be Crazy, and the writings of Sir Laurens van der Post, most Khwe today struggle for survival on the social, economic and political margins of the modern states that have subsumed them. It was these struggles that Hard-battle addressed and which took him from the Ralahari to the World Bank, the United Nations, Europe and North America.

Having spent the first 16 years of his life in Ghanzi, John and his siblings were sent to Britain in 1961 to be Through his mother, he harsh, marginal and often hunger-filled world of the Khwe, the indigenous fore joining the British Army.



John Hardbattle . . . 'I am a man of two worlds'

yearning for home was stron-ger and in 1975 he bought himself out and returned to his family farm in Ghanzi. Hardbattle returned at a critical time for the Khwe. The government of the now independent Botswana was

He served on the Rhine for pening up land previously three and a half years. But despite enjoying Army life, his cattle ranching. Settlements were also being created by the government to encourage the semi-nomadic tribespeople to become sedentary. Social tensions and conflicts abounded in these settlements as the Khwe, lumped together with little regard for linguistic and

dialect divisions, struggled to cope with the enforced changes in their way of life.

The egalitarian and heterogeneous nature of the Khwe, united only in their common marginalisation by their neighbours in almost all spheres of life, militated against the emergence of lead-ers to articulate their needs.

haired, with a slight cock of the head and a magnetic smile, quietly assumed the leadership of the Khwe. He helped set up Ghanzicraft, which marketed Khwe handi-crafts and kept Khwe material culture alive, as well as providing a much-needed income to the producers. However beneficial such

initiatives were, they did nothing to address government development programmes which virtually ig-nored Khwe culture and loss of access to land. In 1992, Hardbattle was asked by several fellow Khwe to set up an organisation to address these issues. He was chosen, he explained, because: "As they told me, I can sit at the fire of my mother's people, and get up and sit at the table of my father's people, since I am a

man of two worlds." So Kgeikani Kweni, or First People of the Kalahari, was formed, with him as its chairformed, with him as its chairman. He had personally experienced the discrimination
and loss of dignity, culture
and rights that the Khwe had
suffered. He once explained:
"I remember as a child running away from anthropologists who came from With gists who came from Wits the West, including the Ford University [Johannesburg] to Foundation, Summit, Surmeasure me and look at me because they couldn't believe

Khwe. When asked last year what request he would make on behalf of his people if he met the President of Botswana. Hardbattle's response was: "I would ask him to give the Khwe people the respect that they deserve. Respect is the [basic] thing Khwe people feel they are not getting as citizens of this country."

N October 1993, at a confertswana and Namibia, they held the stage, many under the umbrells of Kgeikani Kweni. The Khwe addressed political leaders, not only in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, but also in London, Copenhagen, New York, Washington and elsewhere. On such occasions, Hard-

battle rarely spoke alone. He usually translated, into beautiful English, the words of fellow Khwe elders whose elovival International in Britain and the International Work

Few have any formal educa- | that white people, 'real | Group for Indigenous Affairs tion beyond primary school, people', could breed with the in Dermark. On a trip to this so Hardbattle, tall, dark- Bushmen." country last June, he met One of Kgelkani Kweni's Prince Charles, through main challenges has been to whom he secured the dona restore a sense of dignity to tion of a Land Rover for Kgei The catapulting of the

Khwe to national and international attention made the Botswana government un-easy. Hardbattle was sum-moned, with other Khwe leaders, by government officials and, he claimed, threatened. However, the government could not simply declare him a prohibited immigrant, as they have in the past to expatriates who have spoken out on behalf of the Khwe.

When he was challenge last year on the perception of many officials in Botswans that he was a "troublema-kee", he replied: "Of course I am a troublemaker, in that I am fighting for the rights of my people."

In the often bleak horizon of the Khwe in Botswana, he gave hope. The growth of optimism, pride and dignity, al-beit slight and scattered, among the Khwe of Botswana is due in no small measure to tion to their cause.

Hardbattle's unique contribu-

John Oace Hardbattle, political activist, born August 4, 1945;

Face to Faith

Why the nativity is just a curiosity to Jews

Shmuel Botesch

OR the Jews, respect for another man's religion, especially the Christian faith, is not confined to modern society or enlightened liberalism. Maimonides wrote almost a millennium ago that Christianity had significantly as-sisted in "perfecting the world and facilitating the religious worship of God on the part of the earth's inhabitants." Christianity, he argued, had filled the world with the knowl edge of God's laws to the extent that "these ideas have now become widespread and have been broadcast to the farthest isles, even amongst pagan peoples, so that they now de-bate and discuss Godly ideas and the words of the Bible." To be sure, although it was Judaism which spawned two

great monotheistic faiths, it was Christianity which had

the knowledge of God. As a member of a people whose principal Biblical prerogative is to serve as "a light unto the nations," I am at once grateful and envious of this Christian

But amidst the mutual espect which Christians and Jews warmly accord one another in this new era of understanding, it becomes necessary at this festive time of year to explain why Jews do not participate even in national and secular celebrations of Christmas and the nativity. Even the erstwhile and much tabled "Chanukah Bush" the kosher Jewish version of the Christmas tree — can be found in very few Jewish homes because of its Christo-

logical overtones.
For the Jewish nation there exist simple beliefs which have been deeply ingrained into the Jewish psyche. Foremost among these is the simple belief that no man could ever be

God. Judaism came to replace paganism with ethical monotheism: the worship of all too visible personalities and oblects was replaced by the worship of the invisible, and indi-visible God who lies velled behind nature.

Judaism established divsions within empirical existence: between the holy and mundane, animal and human life, and the Sabbath and the rest of the week. But the stron-gest division it established is that between "Creator" and 'created," or more appropristely, between God and man. The Hebrew word for "holy" is kadosh, which literally translates as separate or distinct. God is holy by virtue of the fact that He is completely divorced from anything remotely human. Ancient pagan worship and Greek mythology is replete with reference to human deities, but the Hebrew Bible assures us that God is utterly transcendent and has

no form. Maimonides devoted four of the 13 Cardinal Articles of the Jewish faith towards proving that God was incorpo-real and could therefore bave no body, was eternal and therefore could never die. He alone was to be worshipped and therefore no prophet could ever claim to be the deliverer of his own message. The idea that a man could be God is anathema to the very essence of Judaism.

TIS for this reason that

amidst all its colourful splendour — the radiant lights on the shopping streets, the heart-warming carols, the familiar image of Santa Claus — Christmas is largely ig-nored by Jews. It is not only that many of the Christmas celebrations as embraced by Pope Gregory in 354 involve a Christian absorption of earlier pagan rites, such as the cele-bration of the winter solstice and the coming of spring, or the Roman pagan festival of Saturnalia, which honoured the god of the harvest, or the northern European winter fe tival of Yule which was celebrated with giant logs trimmed with greenery and ribbons. Rather, it is specifically the nativity which cele hrates the emergence of God from a mortal womb which is so forelen to us.

I am well aware that we Jews have our own practices which to the uninitiated will seem irrational, and yet, as I walk through Christmas shopping malls, I ask myself, "Is it possible that the child held so lovingly in Mary's arms is

really revered as the Creator of

heaven and earth?"

I suspect that questions such as these remain the principal reason why amidst consider-able affort throughout the centuries Christianity has had negligible success in converting Jews to a belief in Jesus. The nativity, in which we are asked to accept that wise men came from afar to worship at the feet of a child who was God, remains nothing more than an Item of curiosity for Jews.

The dividing line separating God and man is immutable and eternal, and for us there could be no greater heresy than for a man to declare himself to be, or ever be worshipped as, a deity. This is not to say that Jews do not have a profound respect for believing Christians. But it does serve to explain the uncompromising na ture of the Jewish rejection of

Rabbi Shmuel Boteach continues our Advent series by non-Christians reflecting on Christmas. He is director of Oxford's L'Chaim Society

Weekend Birthdays



Imagine Jane Birkin (50 today) in a Colette story, maybe called This English Bird. A girl from a good school would be loosed into freedom by crossing the Channel and being taken up by an adored national outrage, Serge Gains-bourg; he would find her in movie farces with titles like Mustard Gets Up My Nose and, by desiring her flagrantly, make all of France want her, too. Daughters by three fathers would be described, the grandchild . . . then on the last page she would be cast as Androma che, survivor of the Trojan Wars about to be enslaved, exlled. "I saw her." Colette would have written, "in the passage between dressing rooms, with melancholy arranged about melancholy wrapped about

her like the crêpe kimonos we wore backstage. Serge was dead, and so was her father, the war-time hero — she had bought a house in Finistère just where he landed his gunboat on Christmas Day 1943 to pick up Allied airmen. She still sang Serge's songs though the romance was over long before be expired. She grinned at me: how the suggestiveness of that gap between her front teeth had increased! I remember her as a young gamine, how she used to say 'the only excite-ment in life is to be wanted'."

Today's other birthdays: Vijay Amritraj, tennis player, 43; Carol Browner, director, US **Environmental Protection** Agency, 41; Jill Johnes, econ-omist, 34; Barbara Leigh-Hunt, actress, 61; Alberto Morrocco, painter, 79; Cecil Payne, saxophonist, 74: Dame Ruth Railton, founder, National Youth Orchestra, 81; Stan Smith, tennis champion, 50: Clark Terry, jazz trumpeter, 76; Rosalyn Tureck, conductor and writer, 82; Chr.is Waddle, footballer, 36.

Tomorrow's birthdays: Michael Bogdanov, film and stage director, 58; Dave Clark, drummer and pop group founder, 54; Don Johnson, actor 47; Gen Sir Frank Kitson, counter-insurgency expert, 70: The Rev Dr Una Kroll, physician, writer, feminist, 71; Oscar Niemeyer, architect, 89; Edna O'Brien, novelist, 60; Commandant Anne Spencer, director, WRNS, 58; Prof Sir John Meurig Thomas, FRS, master, Peterhouse Col-lege, Cambridge, 64; Prof Maurice Wilkins, FRS, Nobel prize-winning biophysicist, 80.

Death Notices

ber 1968, possetuity at home, aged 76. Teacher, writer, broadcaster, deeply toved Husband, Father, Gramfather and Friend, Cramation at 11.00em on Friday December 20th, St Marylebone Cramationism, East and Road, Finchiay, Donallone in mampry, to The North London Hospica, vis the under-talkers, J.A. Clark & Son, 103 Wood Street, Bernet.

Birthdays

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Enter the euro

But will it get residential status?

YESTERDAY - make no mistake - marked a vital milestone along the tortuous road to monetary union for Europe. First, and most important from the point of view of ordinary people, it was the day when years of rhetoric were suddenly made flesh - in the form of specimen notes of the proposed euro which will almost certainly become the sole currency for a core of European countries in a little over five years time irrespective of whether Britain joins or not. The euro is no longer a figment of the imagination: now, for the first time, there is something to see.

Predictably, the embedded symbolism of the designs (bridges, windows and doors) was interpreted in contradictory ways according to the prejudices of the beholder. They reminded Eurosceptic Sir Teddy Taylor that the single currency was a gateway to mass unemployment, a window to misery and a bridge to civil unrest to another critic, Iain Duncan-Smith the note was "an unwelcome child that nobody really wants to own". But if it looks more like a changeling than change, this is because it was, inevitably, designed by a committee determined to avoid offence rather than entering something for the Turner Prize. But to Europhiles the images are on a different plane: they are windows of opportunity, bridges of reconciliation and gateways to a new age in which the member states of a united Europe will never again go to war with each other and will instead bind themselves together in peace by sharing that most powerful of all social

cements — a common currency.

The second reason yesterday's unveiling was important is this. Even if Britain doesn't join the single currency it won't be able to avoid it. Sooner or later it will invade Britain. People will start to take out eurodenominated plastic cards when they visit Europe: some will want euro-savings accounts: others will want their mortgages backed by the "strong" euro — which may lead to some salaries being paid in euros in order to avoid having to repay a mortgage in a strong currency (the euro) out of wages paid in what might be a depreciating one (sterling). Companies like BMW which by then will be paying all their Continental subsidiaries in euros will probably be only too happy to offer similar facilities to its Rover employees in Britain. By that time shops like Tesco and Sainsbury — thanks to advances in electronic money - will be able to accept payments in either currency. In other words, if a core group of EU members, as seems likely, goes ahead with monetary union the whole European monetary scene will be changed whether we like it our not. At the very least everyone in Britain will have the choice whether to accept the euro or not as individuals even if at the national level the government of the day rejects it.

The third reason yesterday was important was that a deal appears to have been struck on the so-called ing obstacles to Continental acceptance of monetary union. Under the Maastricht agreement countries are prohibited from allowing their budget deficits to so above a ceiling of 3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP). That will affect British economic policy even if the UK doesn't sign up because the Maastricht criteria will become the standard by which the international markets judge British economic policy whether we are in or out of the single currency. The problem is that if one or more countries decide to let their deficits rise to 4 or 5 per cent of GDP then the burden of coping with it would fall on other countries who would either have to transfer resources (cash) or suffer higher interest rates. There have to be some penalties but if the original German plan of automatic fines running into billions of pounds on recalcitrant countries had been accepted, it would have risked a massive social backlash in the guilty countries. To impose fixed fines on countries with heavy deflicts by forcing them to hand over more money is a bit like treating haemophilia with blodletting. Yesterday's compromise - with escape clauses for countries in recession at the discretion of the Council of Ministers - has fault-lines of its own (like would the Council ever have the courage to apply sanctions?) but at least it looks as though a formula has been found that may be more acceptable to German public opinion. It remains to be seen whether the increasing likelihood of the single currency going ahead on the mainland of care for some of our most vul-Europe — supported now by the prospect of real euro nerable children and young notes — will start to roll back the increasingly hostile tide of public opinion. The answer is that it probably won't unless Labour both wins the general election and adopts a sustained strategy for winning the argument.

Rig of the year award Laced with a powerful whiff of hypocrisy

THE DISCOVERY that the Labour Party has been trying to rig the Today programme contest for Man of the Year has caused the party deserved embarrassment. But the people who ought to feel most ashamed are the BBC, for perpetuating this enterprise despite years of attempts at rigging it. When it started on the World at One — which later had the sense to get rid of it — Powellites swamped it with write-in votes. Then the Thatcherites took over. The greener BBC spokespeople may believe that the contest affords, as one of them put it yesterday, "a spontaneous opportunity for the programme's listeners to express their point of view" but few others are so deluded - especially after John Major's strong showing last year.

Labour's defence carries a powerful whiff of hypocrisy. Junior employee carried away by zeal, never any intention of staging such stunts, etc. . Yet the unfortunate perpetrator of this horror, Ms Hurry, works for an Audience Participation Unit whose whole raison d'être is rigging getting known Labour sympathisers into audiences which unsuspecting viewers might take as cross-sections of humanity. If Tony Blair was really so shocked by Ms Hurry's excesses he would close down the unit. But he won't, any more than the Tories would.

They are all in this together Yet dumping the Man of the Year competition would at least remove one potent temptation from itchy spindoctoral hands. James Naughtie, John Humphrys and Sue MacGregor should refuse to have anything more to do with it, making it clear they will all resign unless it is junked. The whole ridiculous enterprise could then be reallocated somewhere on Radio 1, in the care of Dale winton, or merged with the Saturday Night TV lottery windly of the Year party headed by an unrependant of the Year party headed b

Letters to the Editor

A minister takes the stage The euro, yet again proving a spur to disagreement

READ Maureen Lipman's article with interest (TV draft circulated in early 1995 drama shock horror, December 12). The facts are as follows: European Community Directive 92/100 gives performers in films new rights, including a right to equitable remuneration when films in which they have performed are rented by the public.

To obtain these rights in respect of any films made under agreements entered into before July 1, 1994, performers need to submit notifi cations before January 1, 1997 to producers. While it is up to performers to submit notifications, there is no reason. why this cannot be done on their behalf by professional agents or advisers, or organi-

sations such as Equity.
The Regulations implementing the Directive were passed by the British Parlia-ment on November 25, 1996, after delays caused partly by extensive consultation, including with Equity. How-ever, the Directive was orig-inally adopted in 1992. It has also been clear since the Reg lations were laid in July that the deadline for notifications of the end of the year would be

to interested parties, including Equity. Performers and their advisers have, therefore had some time to prepare for the new rights. We have never considered that the Regulations had to have entered into force before the process o submitting notifications

could begin.
The Government values
highly the contribution made by British performers to the success of, particularly, English-language films, and therefore welcomes the harmonising effect of the "rental" Directive which will bring British performers valuable benefits throughout the Community. Ian Taylor MP. Minister for Science and Technology. DTI, 1 Victoria Street,

AUREEN Lipman draws attention to the cavaller approach the Government has taken to performers. But this is merely a repeat performance of the tactics used in legislating for extension of the copyright term last year to life of the author plus 70 years. Extensive consultation did

take place, albeit belatedly and hurrledly. As with the Statutory Instrument on rental and lending, so too with term. The latter was passed at breakneck speed just before the summer recess last year s that the UK did not fall foul of the serious effects of late imntation of an EU Directive. Yet the lesson was not learned, or rather the Govern ment chose not to learn from it. The consultation process involved both the stronger and weaker negotiating par-ties but, inevitably, the stron-

ger had the funds to lobby longer and harder. The SI comes down clearly on the side of the stronger party in two ways. It requires that authors, composers, artists and performers give notice by December 31, 1996, of any intention to exercise their right to equitable remuneration where rental arises out of agreements concluded before July, 1994.

How such notification should be given is not clear, although we assume it is to be in writing. But aye, as Ms Lipman suggests, here comes the rub: with mergers, take-overs and production companies folding, against whom should the individual exercise the

THIS ONE HASN'T GOT ANY

right to such remuneration? Onerous expenditure is already being incurred by authors, performers, their agents and associations who may also have to take legal action to resolve the

uncertainty.
Once again, the underlying rights owners, without whose creative input there would be io cultural heritage, have been short-changed Maureen Duffy. Chairman, British Copyright Council. Copyright House, 29-33 Berners Street, London WIP4AA.

WRITERS, musicians, composers and enter-tainers are the only workers of the world who apparently ave the right to be paid over have the right to be paid over and over again for their work. Suppose the same principle was applied to other workers or professional people? Be-cause the building an archi-tect designed back in 1960, say, is still being used daily without structural alteration, should he be paid a royalty by those who enjoy its facilities? FA Beal

21 Gwennyth Street. Cathays, Cardiff CF2 4PH.

Of quote with approval (Leader, December 12) the Chancellor's view that a single currency is destrable for Britain because of the effects on interest rates and on public finances in other European

nances in other European countries. May I dissent? Real long-term (bond) inter-est rates are broadly uniform throughout the global economy, and are mainly deter-my, and are mainly deter-mined by worldwide demand and supply of loanable funds. Long-term interest rates, ex-pressed in national currencies approximate to worldwide rea rates adjusted for national inflation rates and any default risk as perceived by the bond market. Short-term interest rates oscillate around the lone term rate in response to short-term forces affecting each

national economy.
The creation of a European common currency will reduce the general level of real rates only insofar as it reduces worldwide demand for loan-able funds relative to supply. The mechanism that is envisaged by supporters of a single currency lies in the enforced reduction of borrowing by some European governments. The relative importance of these "excessive" borrowers in the world economy is so lim-

ited that, even if Maastricht criteria continued to be risor-ously applied, the effect on world interest rates would be imperceptible. Borrowing by British governments is unlikely to be significantly reduced if we joined the curo. so our choice would have prac-tically no effect on global real interest rates.

Money interest rates in euros and national currencies will continue to be influenced by expectations of inflation. and, in turn, by post experience of inflation and of domes-tic macro-economic policies. D. mark interest rates have been kept low by long experience of low inflation and rigorous policles. The operation of any sta-bility pact, which (as you and the Chancellor advocate) would reflect political forces in all countries using eurus, is most unlikely to match the experience of the D-mark.

If British governments continue to follow relatively cau-

tious economic policies outside the euro system, our real interest rates would not be affected at all and money rates could fall below those of any truly European euro. (Prof.) Alan Day. Chart Place, Chart Sutton. Maidstone ME17 3RE.

Vote for a new electoral system

advocates of electoral reform do so out of self-interest, arguing that Jim Bolger's National Party lost the New Zealand election but has been let back by Winston Peter's NZ-First Party through backroom deals (PR turns politics upside-down down under, December 12). Let's examine the facts. The

National Party gained 33.8 per cent of the vote, nearly 6 per cent more than its nearest rival, Labour. If we look at the 65 first-past-the-post-seats, the National Party, with its right-wing allies, won 32. At the last FPTP general election in 1993, the National Party won 35.5 per cent and had an absolute majority. If NZ-First had gone into coalition with Labour, the critics would have

said that the most popular

party had been deprived of power by PR. Mr Aitken was right that the majority of voters in opin-ion poils preferred an NZ-First/Labour coalition. One of the problems with the type of MMP, also known as the Addithat it does not allow the voter to indicate his or her preference for a coalition government. This problem would be solved if New Zealand adopted a preferential voting system, such as used in Ireland. We in Britain should look

again at the types of electoral

of the Social Services In-spectorate report (Fostering

reviewed after "serious fail-

ings" found, December 13) is the disclosure that many chil-

dren had not had a compre-

hensive assessment of their needs. This failure is symp-

tomatic of the low priority

Although two thirds of the children looked after by local

authorities are now placed in foster care, the service contin-

ues to be the poor relation

of the childcare system. Fost

people, yet they frequently lack adequate training, sup-

carers are expected to provide

often given to foster care.

Let's foster the carers

AN AITKEN says that most | reform on offer and choose one, not only on the basis of fairness to parties, but also on maximising the voter's choice and influence. Peter Facey. Development Officer, Electoral Reform Society, 6 Chancel Street

> AN Aitken implies that Britain would be lumbered with an unpopular, un-elected government if it chose proportional representation. But did it not occur to him that this is what Britain has had

for four and a half years. Instead of eight weeks of negotiations to form an agree-ment between parties (which should entail the publication of a detailed programme for government), Britain has had years of infighting and power struggles, which may uiti-mately give power to a minor-

ity, le the Eurosceptics in the Conservative Party. Mr Aitken should look to Ireland. The electoral system here may give eight weeks of uncertainty, but can at least be followed by years of relave stadility, rathe other way around. Eoin O'Malley. 16 Temple Villas Palmerstown Road, Dublin 6.

We regret we cannot acknowledge receipt of letters. We may edit them: shorter ones are more likely to appear

port and financial reward.

Often, they have insufficient

information on the children

they are expected to care for.

Even where thorough as-sessments are made, there

may be an insufficient range

There is a particular shortage

of carers for ethnic minority

Greater emphasis needs to be

ment strategies based on iden-

Executive Director, National

Foster Care Association,

Leonard House, 5-7 Marshalsea Road,

London SE1 1EP.

children and sibling groups

given to developing recruit-

tified local needs. Gerri McAndrew.

of placements available to

meet each child's needs.

PUNCTUATION, IT MUST BE BBC RADIO 4 FROM PRESCOTT TODAY

Cock-up of the Year 1996

HE cock-up theory of at-tempts to rig the Today Per-sonality of the Year Award is all too plausible (Award chase hands Blair cock-up of the year, December 18). At Labour's conference, I was approached by one of Peter Man-delson's ubiquitous Stepford Children anxious to persuade me of the benefits of modernisation. I mentioned Keir Hardie. "Oh," she squealed, "I read him in the Guardian every Saturday." With politi-cal sophistication like that, anything is possible. Brian Bethell. 3 Cherry Drive,

Canterbury, Kent CT28HF. AST general election, Labour wrote to me suggesting that I vote for its candi-date. My vote was no less valid because somebody had per-

Work, play and rescue

vasses me to support a particu-lar individual in the Today Personality of the Year poll, the decision whether or not to do so is still in my hands. Brian P Moss. 98 Mill Crescent, Kingsbury, Tamworth, Staffs B78 2NW.

HESE competitions are lu-dicrous; but after two decades of Tory misrule, Labour should not have to rely on underhand tactics to top the Ann Burgess. 23 Drury Lane, Lincoln LN1 3BN.

contest? I haven't. David Hughes. 42 Langroyd Road.

AVE you ever met anyone who has voted in the Today Personality of the Year

N her advocacy of gender and race quotas, Susan Gibb (Letters, December 12) forgets that two out of three newlyreated jobs go to women and that the majority of long-term jobless are men. If a quota system is to be introduced, it should surely be biased towards young, working-class males, whose chronic unemployment results in violence and alienation, and feeds the growing backlash against middle-class feminism. (Dr) Aidan Rankin.

London WC1N 1ES. T IS outrageous that the Football Association should a bid for the 2006 World Cup (December 12). It has done everything in its power to reduce the number of people who can afford to watch Pre-mier League football: to take one's family to a game now costs a fortune; to watch live

Flat K. Guilford Court.

games at home you must pay BskyB, and we are well on the way to paying per view.
The Lottery money is for
"good causes". I don't think
many people would describe the FA as a good cause. 111 Charles Street, Selby, N Yorks Y080DA.

ONDON'S helicopter emergency ambulance saves lives and reduces the likeli-hood of long-term disability following major trauma (Ground costly air ambulance, urges report, December 12). It also saves the NHS a consider able sum of money each year. Arguing that ambulances often arrive before the heli-

copter misses the point that the helicopter brings a doctor, skilled in managing trauma and anaesthetising patients, to the scene of an accident. Gerry Green. Chief Executive, The Royal Hospitals Trust. London Et 1BB.

When honour is not satisfied

DOES the resignation of David Willetts really represent "a clear-cut victory for self-regulation" of Parliament under the auspices of the Nolan rules, as you report (Willetts pays the price, December 12)? Surely the manner of that resignation — with Mr Willetts pro-testing his innocence, and the Prime Minister giving credence to those protestations — shows instead that the gaping vacuum of responsibility at the heart of British politics, identi-fied by Lord Nolan, is as wide as

Dealing with the Prime Minister's responsibilities on min-isterial misconduct, Nolan recommended that the first paragraph of Questions of Pro-cedure for Ministers should be amended to read as follows: "It will be for individual ministers to judge how best to act in order to uphold the highest standards. It will be for the Prime Minister to determine whether or not they have done so in any particular circum-stance." Downing Street's response was to bat the ball back to Parliament — ignoring the fact that lack of confidence in the probity of Parliament was the very problem Nolan was asked to investigate. Harry Eyres. 41 Tunstall Road, London SW9 8BZ.

THE notion that Mr Willetts has "done the honourable thing" by resigning is humbug. The condemnation was for his conduct in relation to the quality of the evidence be gave, as a Member of Parliament, to a Commons commit-tee. It is thus his conduct as an MP which has been criticised. "The honourable thing" would be for him to apply for the Chiltern Hundreds and, if he feels he has done no wrong. to seek re-election. Roy Roebuck. 12 Brooksby Street. London NI 1HA.

Does the David Willetts afagain the British dislike of intelligence? There were so many snide remarks about his cleverness that one could not help wondering if this was his real sin. G Smith.

25 Cliffe Street, Clayton West, Huddersfield.

Now that David Willetts has established his capacity to dissemble, per-haps he should join Conserva-tive Central Office where his abilities could flourish unchecked. Peter Murray. 10 Logan Road, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 8DT.

A Country Diary

far back in geological time, the rocks at the east end of what is now the Cader Idris range split apart in quite a big way and, despite an unimaginable amount of erosion, that split still leaves its bold mark across the landscape. The Talyllyn Pass between Machynleth and Dolgellau is part of it. Riding through it in 1773, Thomas Pennant was truly alarmed by the "rude and sav-age nature" of the scene. "The es are broken into a thousand crags — the greater part impend in such a manner as to render the apprehension of their fall tremendous."

Little has changed. Those rocks still look precariously alanced up there, waiting only for the next hefty earth tremor. At the bottom of the pass is the well-known Talyl-lyn lake, described in Black's Guide of 1873 as "truly beautiful but hardly deserving the extravagant eulogies which have been bestowed upon it."

MACHYNLLETH: Somewhere | Never mind, it is a delightful water, much photographed and painted, one of the pearls of Snowdonia. Yet it is not all that long since we were shocked by a vandalistic proposal to convert this charming lake into a hydro-electric reservoir, like the now-ruined Llyn Peris near Llanberis. Happily, the lake at Talyllyn remains much the same as it was when Pennant wrote: "Went by Llyn y Myngil, a beautiful lake about a mile long, which so far fills the valley as to leave only a narrow

> It is by that narrow road that I write this diary. The sun shines on the far bank and all up the colourful slopes of Cader as I watch the water-birds: a scattering of coots, pochards, tufted ducks, goosan ders and mallards, along with two mute swans, a greatcrested grebe and a heron. Long may they all survive on this clean and troutful pool WILLIAM CONDRY

road on one side.

How a winning personality can lose a poll



Mark Lawson

HE news that the BBC Radio 4 Today pro-gramme will accept no further nominations this year for its annual Per sonality of the Year poll — after evidence of a Labour Party plot to rig the vote in favour of Tony Mair — is grim news for those of us on these pages who had just fin-ished licking the last stamp and faking the final signature in a massive campaign to secure the nomination for Peter

We hoped finally to win recognition for his coy and largely unacknowledged backroom efforts on behalf of Tony Blair. Our counterfeit letters must now remain unsent and, to compound Mr

who wrote the memo encour-aging Labour activists to bombard Today with calls acted on her own initiative or on a nudge from above. But it cannot be denied — even by a skilled spin doctor — that this was one of two serious defeats for Labour on the same day in the area of presentational or symbolic politics, Mandel-son's area of expertise. Simultaneously, in the

Spectator, the Spice Girls, Britain's new girlie supergroup, came out as Tory-vot-ing and Eurosceptic. This endorsement may well hit Labour among younger elec-tors — presumably the Labour campaigns unit is even now working to denress the votes for Geri or Mel C of the Spice Girls in the Woman of the Year poll — while rat-ings among the middle-aged and middle-class might suffer from being caught interfering with a Radio 4 institution. It couldn't have been much

accused of goosing Jill

worse if Mr Blair had been

scam involving Mr Blair. It is unclear whether Jules Hurty ing. At the very best, it looks country. Interfering with the Mandelson's campaign unit who wrote the memo encouraging Labour activists to burnhard Mades with calls. Certainly, the Prime Ministrum of the memo encouraging Labour activists to burnhard Mades with cells. ter's runner-up position in the poll last year was highly surprising — as, at the time, his political popularity rating was only marginally shead of Arthur Scargill — but no Central Office trickery was ever proved. And how clever is it for New Labour, an outfit al-ready associated with imitation and idea-pinching, to use the excuse that they were merely copying the

Conservatives? Some right-wing commen-tators have tried to argue that people who would rig the Today programme poll would stop at nothing. And so, by logical extension, a few years in to a Blair administration, a rural byelection would resemble a scene from Nicaragua, with voters forced at gun-point to vote Labour, while Wing-Commander Mandelson, in enaulettes and reflecting sunglasses, stuffs the ballot boxes with extra

This lurch of logic is as

were ever to be employed as independent scrutineers of this election, they would struggle to declare it free and fair.

It is well known that the BBC carefully polices the varlous end-of-year polls run by its programmes to avoid results judged inappropriate or unrepresentative. Various amateur rugby club Christ-mas dinners are known to have led to attempts to secure a place in the Today poll for the fly-half or a barmaid. These letters are quietly shredded, along with orga-nised pushes on behalf of the Rev Sun Myung Moon, the Delai Lama and other cult

religious leaders.
In the same way, the BBC Television Sports Personality of the Year poll is rumoured quietly to lose huge volumes of votes for heavily-supported practitioners from low-profile sports such as angling — champion rod-man Bob Nudd

and comic episode. Like the instructions to parliamentary candidates to write letters to newspapers as often as possible, the obsessive running down of any hostile reference to the party in any branch of the media, the ranting phone-calls to print and television editors, it shows an obsession with the power of presentation, a determination to leave no loophole untied.

Some of this is necessary. for the Conservatives are dirty fighters and a totally clean campaign will not un-seat them — but there is a point at which electoral professionalism and attention to detail becomes paranoid and counter-productive.

That point, most famously, was Richard Nixon. As more and more details have emerged in recent years, it has become clear that Nixon killed off his chances as a polthician by leaving nothing to chance. Far ahead in the polls and nearly certain to be

show, organising the sending of fan-letters and cash to Jesse Jackson in order to trick him into running for president and splitting the

Democratic vote.
Intriguingly, Nixon also developed an obsession with a Man of the Year poll. According to the diaries of his aide. H R Haldeman, he brooded each December about the selection by Time magazine of its annual most significant man. He became fevered with theories about the magazine favouring Democrat presidents and there is a suggestion that, one year, he considered offering a long and exclusive interview in ex-change for the honour. The late President would certainly have known what to do when faced with a write-in and phone in poll like the

Today one. There is a streak of Nixonian overkill and parancia about the media in some of those who surround Tony Blair and they remain a threat to his chances of pecoming 1997's political Per-sonality of the Year.

Unhappy dawn for the new Hong Kong

Commentary Martin

Woollacott

OME things are so unpleasant that we enter into a conspiracy to pretend they are less terrible than they are. So it is on Britain and the flouting of the wishes of the people of Hong Kong that have had to be endured this week as the Chinese rigged the selection of a new Chief Executive and then coully proceeded with then coolly proceeded with the rigging of a new legisla-ture for the territory. Britain is so determined to

Britain is so determined to make the best of a bad job that these blatant acts have brought forth no new protest. Equally worrying is the fact that because of the gloss of normality which both countries are anxious to put on these transactions, there is on these transactions, there is no real grasp of the enormity of the changes coming in the that Patten would be

the whole mindlessly optimis-tic about the future. British pension funds continue to pour money into the local stock market, adding to the superficial view that the terri-tory's economy is effortlessly riding the ways of children riding the wave of political change. In London, the faction in the political and business establishment that has opposed and undermined Chris Patten similarly projects the idea that, with his "mistakes" about democracy now brushed aside, a business-as-usual régime can be pragmatically welcomed.

Admittedly, we have known the Chinese were going to do these things for a long time, but that does not alter the case. The British have been had, and the people of Hong Kong with them. Pathetically, we are left to draw what come. we are left to draw what com

Hong Kong. Its expatriate wholly ignored. What has population, consisting mainly happened in Hong Kong is in of very recent arrivals, is on irruth quite astonishing. CH happened in Hong Kong is in truth quite astonishing. CH nonentity, a minor business-man of whom most people in the territory had never heard. Plucked from obscurity by China's Hong Kong experts, he has no independent base, not among Hong Kong people at large, not among Hong Kong's own leftists and com-munists, not in the territory's civil service, and only mar-

ginally among the business community. Hong Kong will, as a result of this choice, have

as a result of this choice, have the weakest leadership of any major city in China. The mayor of Shanghai, for instance, is always a national figure. Chinese big cities are run by men with serious po-litical influence in their courittical influence in their own region and in Beijing. CH Tung will have neither, but will be, whatever his own inclinations, which may be de-cent enough, subject to the push and pull of figures much all arguments for quiet diplomore powerful than himself. In retrospect this may come to be seen as the moment when Hong Kong not only finally lost what chance it had of maintaining a localised de-mocracy within China, but also was crippled in its inev-

The handover in Hong Kong has been accompanied by an open triumphalism which more and more stresses that Taiwan must soon follow Hong Kong back to the fold. The "election" of CH Tung is, said the China Daily, "the first step of the Chinese nation's great undertaking to realise reunification of the motherland." President of the motherland." President Jiang Zemin underlined the point in an interview in which he said that "the Communist Party of China . , . will not allow any person, any force to split Taiwan from the blasts. China warned the United States against selling arms to Taiwan, told the Vatican to "cease its interference in Chinese affairs and, in Singapore, its representative complained that China was

The mixture that the Chi-nese daily brew up combines a self-centred nationalism with repeated threats and gross abuse of both countries and individuals. Yet the West counters with "quiet diplo-macy", or what President Clinton in Sydney recently called "sustaining an engage ment with China... in a way that will increase the chances that there will be more liberty macy, they are surely void now, with China consistently provoking the confrontations quiet diplomacy supposedly avoids, using extreme lan-guage, and stridently insist-ing that only its version of reality is valid. Quiet diplo-

being kept out of the World Trade Organisation for politi-

The handover in Hong cal and human rights questions, so as not to suffer the condign punishment which china applies to those who cross that Taiwan must prop follow Hong Kong back trade possibilities - an airplane order here, a machine tools order there — China effortlessly divides and rules. The process divides the Euro-peans among themselves, the Europeans from the Americans, and, within the United States, the business community from the advocates of human rights. You would but it works every time. There is nothing more sickening than the smirk on the face of a Western trade minister

> The British have been had, and the people of Hong Kong with them

after just learning that another Western country has got into a human-rights row with China. Nobody looking at the re-cord could deny that Chinese

sanctions against Western countries have been infinitely more effective than our sanctions against them. It is not possible to prove that Hong Kong has formed part of that pattern, for the simple reason that Britain never asked either the United States or its

itable contest with other Chinese centres.

The handover in Hong Cal and human rights questions, so as not to suffer the cause there could be no expectations. tation of solidarity. But, al-though Britain could talk of international business interests and although it received some help from the United States here and there, it had to conduct the struggle to equip Hong Kong for its future inside China essentially on its own.

> nationalist revival. There is a huge emphasis on sport, a revival of the inane model fig-ures and popular "heroes" which proliferated in Mao's day, and the encouragement of anti-Western posturing by young writers. As in the Balkans, a pumped up national-ism is brought in to fill the vacuum left by a Marxist-Le-ninist ideology that has

Many Chinese, including figures high in the régime, are no doubt sceptical of these are no doubt sceptical of these ideas, prefering a more modest and genuine nationalism. Yet for the moment, and because the government is uncertain of its grip on power, this aggressive style prevails, and has its victims. As for Hong Kong, its independence day will be celebrated by a blockbuster film called blockbuster film called Opium War, a product of one of the film makers recently exhorted to combat spiritua pollution with films on patriotic themes. Fang Lizhi, wis-est of China's dissidents, said years ago that "Patriotism has become the Communists' final slogan but even this is wrong." The realisation that this is so will eventually dawn in China, but not soon enough unbasely transports.

After a ice age



Martin Kettle

CCORDING to John Major's spin doctors, the Prime Minister recorded last Sunday's television interview with John Humphrys early. The reason, we were told, was so that he could enjoy a peaceful tradi-tional lunch at home with his family. An understandable touch of domesticity if so, but the more fool he. For if Major had stayed in front of the box — but had watched ITV while his own interview was going out on BBC — he might have glimpsed how the Conservative Party may eventually recover, years from now, from the electoral abyss into which it has fallen under his

leadership.
The programme he would have seen was called Dis-united Kingdom? and inevitably it got rather overlooked because of the competition from the PM's own performance. Nevertheless it was a study of a subject which is very close to Major's heart. Its theme was the politics of de-volution. The second and final part goes out tomorrow, Major and Michael Forsyth

think they have had a good year in the battle for the Union, and the first part of Disunited Kingdom? went some way towards explaining why, as it reprised Labour's embarrassing twists and turns on the referendum ques-tion over the summer. Tomorrow's programme, however, is less cheering for the Tories. It gives details of an opinion poll which asked the two questions which Labour intends to put to Scotland's voters within the next 12 months. To the surprise of some, and doubtless to Labour's relief, the poll shows nearly 80 per cent support for the creation of a Scottish parliament and almost 60 per cent in favour of it having tax varying powers.

These findings confirm that, although there will be a fight over tax before it hapbut in the end they will lose. Scottish parliamentary elec-tions will take place in 1969 and at some stage in the months beforehand the Conservatives will be compelled to say whether they will work with and accept the system. It is inconceivable that they will boycott the Scottish parliament, so in the end they will do what Tories have always done in such circumstances. They will accept the new settlement. In less than two

matter in a wider context. I think it does. As I wrote here last week, Labour is going to win the 1997 general election by a large majority, and prob-ably by a landslide. Watching the Tory backbenchers abus-ing the Chancellor again this week over Europe only con-firms that this is a party which has given up. With the general election perhaps tak-ing place on local election day, May 1. Conservative can-didates are in for a rough time on all fronts. This time next year, the number of Conservatives holding elected public office in the United Kingdom is likely to be lower than at any stage in the era of universal suffrage.

Many of the key questions in British politics for the next decade depend upon exactly how badly the Tories do in the general election. So far, most speculation of this sort has focused on how the numbers might affect the probable party leadership election next party leadership election next summer. But the figures will also mould another outcome. If the Tories do so badly that they face the prospect of two terms out of power at Westminster — if they go below 250 seats, for example — then they will have no alternative but to begin to a schelld their party in the country, just as Labour did in the 1980s. The long march back to Downing

through local government. Modern Conservatism has followed a scorched earth ap-proach to local government. The years of absolute power at Westminster have encouraged it to back local government apart, weaken the pow-ers of town and county halls, and to pull up the party's own local authority grass roots. The collapse of the party at local level is in no small way explained by the Conserva-tives' reckless abandonment

But the beckoning years of opposition will bring a dramatic re-evaluation. The Conservatives aren't stupid. They know in their waters that they and not Labour still have an instinctive feel for large parts of the country. They will sense an opportunity to counterattack. With Tony Blair in power in Downing Street, the Conservative Party will rediscover the neglected and spurned virtues of local

Before too long we will begin to hear the Conservatives talking about subjects on which, for many years, they have had nothing good to say: subjects like decentral-isation of power, constit-utional checks and balances, and democracy. They may even start defending the quality of local school and hospi-tal services against Labour cuts. And if Scotland in due last take place. The Tories Tories in places like the will fight it down to the wire, south-east and south-west of south-east and south-west of England may even begin to virtues of regional government. see the previously derided

Making an unelectable party electable again can take a long time, as Labour has learned. There will undoubt-edly be periods of collective madness and local blood-letting. In the end, though, there is only one way for a massa-cred party to regain ground, and that is by winning elec-tions and giving their activyears from now, therefore, the ists a taste of the only forms



Building bridges . . . a man crosses the highway between Pietermaritzburg, a city traditionally dominated by whites, and its satellite black townships

Waiting for the flowers

For South Africans black and white, the ending of apartheid without war was a miracle. But life doesn't stay miraculous, and new ways of living together have to be found. Jo-Anne Richards tells of the primordial emotional upheavals provoked by the quest

grass is still yellow and finedusted, for the first bursting of foreign investment and lookwhite blossoms to awaken all ing over your shoulder for hibernating hopes — not just muggers. for myself, but, strangely, for the country too.

Particularly this year. Just despondency enveloped every-thing. And as we all coughed

ward plunge of the rand, the government's rate of delivery, the edginess of whites and the fever to emigrate. But I knew it was lodged deeper in the

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national psyche. Here we crouch, joined by an unseverable umbilical cord to the land. In our simple and earth-governed way, our afflictions, our deaths and our sorrows seem irrevocably linked to it - inherited memory from symptom, but a flashing sign. our forefathers perhaps. whose lives were buffeted by winds and rain, or lack of

N LATE winter each vibrant here, all right, more than anywhere else on Earth. But it can wear you down, the jasmine to bloom. I keep watch, while the less and begin to enter middle age. Worrying about middle age. Worrying about

muggers. Everything happens so fast and changes so abruptly here. Exiles return, a centre as winter struck, a national forms... Everything rebalances with time. It's just that, in the icy clutch of national and compared symptoms and despondency, it can seem that clogged sinuses, we talked in it will never end. We forget People gave lengthy analyses — about the wait for foreign investment, the downward plunce of the man and the swooped between applications. cessantly of South Africa, as that we are a country which

This past year, we became vigilant for fairy-tale conclusions — happy endings in our ups, tragic ones in all our downs. We became readers of magic signs and symbols, as each pothole on our streets became a possible sign of things to come, a symbol of standards lost. Each hijacking became not a transitional a warning of doorn and des-tiny. We searched for new or-acles. We revered the porten-

A friend of mine was robbed last year, at gunpoint. She screamed and wet her pants, feeling the steel against her temple and the shaking of the robber's hand. She thought of her children, and I thought of mine, as I visited her shortly.

after. "But in some ways," she told me, "think what we could've had. We could've had. a terrible, bloody civil war. Instead we had a miracle. You can't expect a miracle with no

sure to lock our doors, and to scan deserted streets at night before stopping. My children lock their car doors and they know where the panic buttons are. What I coach myself to remember — what is hard to remember in the chill of winter - is that this is not our ending. It is not our fate.

ings, happy or sad — just cycles. All nations live through them, the primor-dial ones: renewal and destruction, elation and despair. It's just that they seem so very raw, so very manifest here. Such euphoria we experienced before this winter, such euphoria and sense of growth. And after our allotted season of dejection will come another time when hopes will flower

South Africa, particularly Johannesburg, is a place con-stantly redefining itself, shiftwinds and rain, or lack of them.

It made me anxious this year, all the wintry talk of emigration among whites. Sometimes, just sometimes in the chill of early morning. I could understand. Oh, it's assistantly redefining itself, shift-ing its communities and the character of its neighbour-hoods. Other places, other more settled places, other more settled places, draw comstant their country where the sun melts could understand. Oh, it's the tar and blisters have feet, past, plotted into human scale, this meant the memory of the chill of early morning. I could understand. Oh, it's the tar and blisters have feet, past, plotted into human scale, this meant the memory of the chill of early morning. I could understand. Oh, it's the tar and blisters have feet, past, plotted into human scale, this meant the memory of the child of early morning. I could understanding our complex-ting its communities and the character of its neighbour-hoods. Other places, other more settled places, draw comstant the release of our tattered rancours, submerged in senting its communities and the character of its neighbour-hoods. Other places, other more settled places, draw comstant their should act.

It's easy to forget, in a country where the sun melts could understanding our complex-ting its communities and the character of its neighbour-hoods. Other places, other more settled places, draw comstant their should act.

It's easy to forget, in a country where the sun melts country the country where the sun melts of its neighbour-hoods. Other places, other more settled places, other m

to its architecture, as though the pull of the past, in its graceful European copies, will now, they say the miracle's never be strong enough to hold back the roughness of the land. The need is always there to destroy what seems too fragand more stolid. To create, in brute-force display, an envithat we always had potholes, brute-force display, an envi-as we always had crime — its seeds well-planted in the long taken. And it has created a vibrant and intense community, a community with energy and freshness, with the naivête of the new.

But never underestimate our sentimentality. We all loved the miracle. Never mind our differences, we papered them over with that rainbow view of ourselves. We lived through a hopeful euphoria, since the election, headier than anything I had known. We even managed to pro-long it, beyond the election honeymoon. With tears in our eyes, we extended it all through the winter of '95 with bouts of sports mawkishness

"I have nightmares. But we have to get on with life." And we do. We still drive where we please, most of us, just making in the streets — black and white - we all sang Shosholoza and roared for our mainly white rugby team and, later, our chiefly black soccer team. Who cared that it wasn't real it didn't matter. Sure, the euphoria's gone.

Small signs of resentment return. Government ministers forget to pretend - forget the importance of the Emperor's Clothing. Teams start to lose. But we're somehow better off than before it occurred. We There is an earnestness to our racial mixing — working, drinking or at the school gate. And, in a daily shopping living-working kind of way, we do still manage to laugh together, kid each other and greet in lifts. Strangely, this is as it always was, even through the worst times.

Just the other day, during another incessant discussion, I was accused of white romanticism by a foreign correspondent. I accused him of not understanding our complex-

forged by all those who came being strapped to a black middle-class people always before. | middle-class people always before. | middle-class people always before. | before.

But, built by frenetic, goldrushed hands, Johannesburg
constantly transforms itself.

There is a desperate strength
suggesting this might be true, lived. In some ways, it's quite sad. I always used to know the

> now, they say the miracle's gone. They say whites bleat about delivery, but give nothing back."
> It stung, his comment about

which there was an element of truth. I brought it up, worry-ing at it, on Sunday. We were hanging out in Soweto, waiting for a jazz club to begin. Middle-class to their BMWs and CD shuttles, comfortable with their cell-phones and RayBans, they were all black, except for me.

INE white sand sifted across our view from an aban-doned mine dump. Children, as children did a generation before pushed tyres with sticks in the water-striated street and created cars from wire. The guys laughed and kidded me, mudg-

ing and throwing arms across my shoulders.
"I think that most people do still want to merge their cultures a bit," said Peter, an attorney, "and they genuinely want to learn how to mix Even for whites."
"Yeah, we're not like the

Americans." I think that was John, a schoolteacher. "I hope we never want to be separate. I hope we go on trying because, even if we're only learning, in the next genera-tion, our children will do it properly."
"Well," said Mesh, a jazz DJ,

"I think it's time for a truly South African sound in music, merging all our influences. And, I've never really felt able to admit it before, but one of my earliest musical influences was boeremusiek . . . As their laughter faded be-

hind us in the darkening evening, my friend Phetole and I drove back through Diepkloof, one of the oldest sections of Soweto. "This is where the

places to go, the places that were cool. Now people have moved out, gone to the white suburbs. It's all changed." I commented on the rebuilding, the improvements. In many small gardens I could see the bloom of spring roses, the fire of red bottle brushes, the waving of palms. And, here and there, the creeping of walls, higher and higher.
"Ha," I said, "it's not just us
whites who build our walls so

Phetole laughed. "This used to be the stronghold of the ANC. The street committees were strong — there was no crime. These days, the crime's creeping in... You know what I miss now? I miss the

sense of purpose."
Phetole, now a civil servant, trained as a guerrilla after 1976. "I miss the way we believed in a cause, and in our leaders. We had a strong, alour leaders are just politi-cians. And what is my mission? I have a mortgage and a car payment.

We swept on through Soweto, where every street corner held a small business a hairdresser under a tarpaulin, a small welding busi-ness with a hand-made sign, a shipping container contain-ing public telephones. "Besides all the tough

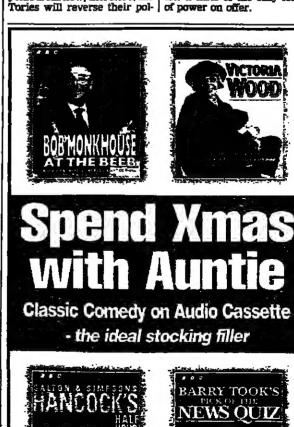
things," I suggested, tentative with someone who had had such a very hard life, "don't brightness, of energy? Of

things being dynamic?"
"We are lucky," he said, "to
be living with so much history and to be part of making

We smiled and I knew the reason for all the euphorias and despairs. Through all the pain, all the hardness of living here, we know that we have a greater sense of joy, a greater discernment of life, than anyone else. We experience it intensely, we have an awareness of it in every pore. That is a gift.



THIS WEEK'S essayist, Jo-Anne Richards, is a writer in Johannesburg. Her first novel, The innoceace Of Roast Chicken (Hodder Headline), weaves a rural childhood into the emergence of the new South Africa. As an investigative journalist in the mid-80s she suffered protracted state harassment for her reports on police tor-ture of prisoners. She co-wrote Editors Under





Watching the detectives. Stephen Akers has spent the last five years leading a team of accountants unravelling the most audacious fraud in the history of world banking. involving 150 million documents. PHOTOGRAPH INNAM TURNER



Unravelling a global cobweb

nances of the world's top cocaine barons and arms dealers as Stephen Akers does, one is probably entitled to feel concern about one's personal safety.

The BCCI

Stephen Akers into

with a

waters. But he can't be bothered

bodyguard, PATRICK DONOVAN discovers

Ever the down-to-earth accountant, 42-year old Mr Akers can't be doing with the bother of a full-time bodyguard. But he does admit that through phases of checking for sinister packages under his car. And he parries questions about whether his home (some be repaid almost 25p in the solution and where in Buckinghamshire is pound on everything they the closest he'll go) is linked lost. the closest he'll go) is linked up with a hot line to the

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the past five-and-a-balf years have devoted themselves to unravelling the biggest and most audacious fraud in the history of world banking the collapse of the Abu Dhabi-based Bank of Credit and

Costing \$1 million a week in travel and hotel expenses alone, these battalions of highly paid auditors crawled

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HEN someone knows as price you pay for leading the murky fithe murky fiTouche accountants who for

Touche ac There was a hefty personal

price to pay, even though some of the young single ac-countants took advantage of being thrown together for long periods in often exotic lo-cations with members of the opposite sex. At least a dozen relationships have been one of the byproducts of the BCCI

But for family men like Mr life changed on July 5, 1991 (when BCCI came crashing down), Mr Akers gratefully police with a wry "no com- created its own esprit de acknowledges that in Jane he And he had arrived at the reg-

leaving little time for his chil-dren, Nicola, 11, and Richard,

HE drama began to unfold just before lunch at Heathrow's Penta Hotel. Mr Akars is hardly likely to forget it. Joining the firm after study-ing maths at Leicester University, Mr Akers quickly tiles business, and there were ripe pickings as Britain's in-dustry tipped into recession.

over office politics.

Fat chance. A call came through from the Bank of the lead partner, Brian Smouha, who was immediately asked to take over BCCI

as provisional liquidator.

Within a couple of hours Mr Akers and four handpicked colleagues were in a taxi back to central London. And just about to start work on a task which would take over their lives and that of 500-plus colles

The scale of the crisis became apparent as soon as the Deloitte team commandered an office in BCCI's London headquarters at 70 Leadenhall Street. There was the misery of depositors con-fronted with a worldwide Akers tells the story of a woman tourist who had arrived on the day the bank shut to change a hefty wedge of traveller's cheques to finance her stay in London. Told this might take a little time, she was advised to come back later. Unfortunately, when she returned, the entire BCCI network had been closed down. And a Barlow Clowes victim put all his compensation into the bank just before its assets were frozen. Customers were traumatised. Staff were running around like frightened rab-bits. This bank, which after all had representation in 60 countries, still had potenpostions open in some of its activities such as trade fi-

Peldistant banker Aghar Hasam Abadi founds SCCI in 1972 to act as bridge between the first and the third world. It is indeposated in Lucembeurg and has headquarters in London. Within a year it has six offices.

By 1975 BCGI has expanded to 148 branches in 32 countries with meets of \$2.2 billion and \$113 million in capital. It is the largest foreign-paned bank in the UK.

Blanck links start appearing in accounts in 1977. The following year the Bank of England refuses a full banking licence.

By the early 1980s BCCI has become the preferred bank for customers with a require a discrete service including the CIA.

Colorations drags cartains, arms smugglers and various third—world distallors.

world distallors.

W By dis mid algities, there is gathering evidence of financial inegaties, conquistes and oriminal involvement. A 1985 Price within house audit of Calyman islands offshoot highlights four highlights four highlights from 1986 shows the agency with the bank was compt.

D 59 7931 the challe are stowing. In Merch a PW audit ruler argument, fundreds of millions are missing. Shelkh Zhahed, ruler of Abushalality by his statista 177 per cent. In November.

of Abstract tips file state to 77 per cent. In November, lighting Absolution of the Service of Services of Majorit 1991 the Berkin of England are societ.

The Berkin of England asks PV to carry out a Section of the Berkin of England asks PV to carry out a Section of the Majorit Architecture of A14 billion. In automission to the sending up hearing, the Bank of England says 1900 from page 1894 billion. In automission to the sending up hearing, the Bank of England says 1900 from page 1894 billion. In automission to the sending up hearing the Bank of England says 1900 from page 1895 billion of England says 1900 from the Section agreement in 1992, but bibliotic by an appeal. A second agreement in 1994 was also blacked by the appeal of ser former amployees. The appeal was with the appeal was with the section of the courts approved the payout.

A December 1996 frequent to creditors begin.

ployees. Because of the scale of the accusations, we didn't the bank was riddled with know who we could rely on among the staff. We couldn't take that risk. We had to smell of fraud and connections them with our replace them. replace them with our people or from clearing banks." From the start, it was a case

of logistics. A "war room", open 24 hours a day to co-ordinate worldwide developments was established on the first floor of BCCFs head offices. Travel expenses began to rise as a handful of partners flew out Club Class to stay at the Inter-Continental in Abu

Dhabi to try to get access to the BCCI headquarters. Accountants had to negotiate their way past armed guards. And BCCI initially prevented

by a Deloitte partner. Functions spanned loans, treasury, information technology (BCCI used a mainframe system which was rejected as un-safe by clearing banks a de-cade before), trade finance and forensic.

"prayers meeting" at Sam, staff were divided into a dozen task forces headed up

The forensic division carse up trumps, discovering a huge web of suspect loans to the Gulf Shipping Group, which had itself been looked at by the Serious Fraud Office. Such was the scale of the Serious approximately and the serious fraud office. the \$1.5 billion exposure to Gulf that the loans were more than the bank's entire share capital. At the same time, De-loitte was fighting to get its hands on BCCI's US assets. This resulted in the farcical situation of Deloitte having to plead guilty in court to charges including assisting terrorism and money laundering in order to be given control of half the bank's North American interests.

Within the first two years, progress really came on apace as the mountain of 150 million documents was wired up to a computer system; a phenomenally time-intensive process with about 100 people carrying out the indexing.

But as the extraordinary saga draws to a close, Mr Akers reflects that several shadowy characters have slipped through the net. Like the elusive Saudi. Ghaith Pharoan, who at one point had the US Sixth Fleet on his tail when he was rumoured to be on the run in a yacht in the Mediterranean. Or the identity of the thousands of BCCI depositors who have yet to lay claims to outstanding

47 84

BCCL "We were told by Robert Morganthau, District At-torney of New York, that this bank was rotten," he says. funds worth \$1 billion. Mr Akers now has more time to coach his son's foot-ball team, the Chesham United Under 9s. But he ac-But the big breakthrough came in the first year. The ries were met with the flash of a warrant card and the from removing files.

The investigation, which nating the hundreds of accountants around the world. The bank had got 1,200 cm.

The bank had got 1,200 cm.

And BCCI mitially prevented them from removing files. The investigation, which nating the hundreds of accountants around the world. From the London headquarters which operated a daily it all over again. cepts that if the same opportunity to carry out such a wideranging fraud came along, he'd probably be ready to do



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Finns going down to the wire



Mark Milner

INLAND seems on fast track to sign up for the European single currency. all convergence criteria laid down in the Maastricht treaty are likely to be in place. The Finns will only have to make minor adjustments to statutes governing their central bank. Odd then that a debate

about the merits of membership should be under way. After all, Finland does not have an opt-out from country could risk going it the single currency and, indeed, underlined its commitment to the project maintains and the project it additionally depended on the project of prount-sugaring into pay structures which would create a cushion, allowing a fall in wages during hard times. Trade in mineral to the project it additionally depended on the project in the project in five reckons the pay structures which would create a cushion, allowing a fall in wages during hard times. Trade

two-year membership qual-ification required for EMU. But as Jaakko Honiemi

managing director of the Helsinki-based Centre for Finnish Business and Policles Studies, notes: "How ordinary people think [about EMU] is one thing, how the political leadership feels is something different."

It depends how the ques-tion is posed. Ask the Finns if their country should be in the first wave of those signing up for the single currency and 45 per cent fall into the "no" or "not really" category. Less than one in 10 is enthusiastic.

Give the issue a different spin, and suggest that it could be fatal for Finland to remain aloof if most of the rest of the countries in the European Union sign up and opinion shifts, with 43 per cent agreeing; barely one in five reckons the

when it made sure it joined the highly cyclical paper the exchange rate mechanism in time to make the though the industrial base though the industrial base has widened in recent years with the development of an electronics industry clustered round the telecommunications company Nokia. The narrow base has made Finland more vulnerable to asymmetric shocks able to asymmetric shocks compared with countries

tions with drug money."

national intrigue widened, Deloitte

contact with the

agencies such as the National

Drugs Intelligence Unit, also

interested in investigating

The traditional answer has been to devalue the markka, an option that, would be ruled out once the country signed up for monetary union.

that have more diverse

Finnish economists' alternative is hardly a comfortable one. They calculate the equivalent effect of a 10 per cent devaluation could be achieved by a 3 to 4 percentage-point fall in nominal wases. nominal wages.
Both sides of Finnish in-

native measures, such as a series of dedicated funds that could be used to smooth economic shocks,

should be studied.

The Finns are also concerned about the attitude of their neighbours and rivals, the Swedes. If the Swedes stayed out of the single currency that would open the option of competitive devaluation if recession sion hit the forest-products

industry. Some Finns argue that devaluation is no longer a realistic alternative for either country because of the retribution in the form of higher interest rates and

higher inflation.
But, having signed up to
the Maastricht treaty, are given to how parliament will deal with monctary dustry are looking at possi-bly building a substantial alice of profit-sharing into but, as one Finnish businessman put it: if, come the day, it does not want to join, then the rest of the EU can hardly force it to do so.

\$40bn deal is off the cards The seductive

allure of the euro

Mark Tran in New York

TICORP, America's second-larges bank, has abandoned plans to take over American Express in what would have been the largest buy-out in history. Until last week the bank

was negotiating to purchase was negotiating to purchase the financial services com-pany for up to \$40 billion (£25 billion). This would have topped the \$25 billion buy-out of food and tobacco group RJR Nabisco by corporate raider Kohlberg Kravis Roberts in 1989.

The mega-merger thought to have collapsed be-cause of the price and the cause of the price and the likelihood Citicorp would been in play for a long time. It be in a position to buy Amex.

have to abandon its affiliation | has a huge retail franchise, with Visa and MasterCard.

Citicorp spokesman John Morris refused to confirm or deny reports in the Wall Street Journal of takeover talks but said: "We have nothing against acquisitions that would fit in our business

strategy." Amex merely said: "We are not engaged in discussions with anyone regarding a sale of the company or parts of the

company."
Analysts said that an alliance between the two would have made strategic sense.
"In this day and age, it would have surprised me if they hadn't talked," one banking analyst said.
""American Express her

but if it had a weakness it was on its international side, where Citicorp has an overwhelming advantage. But I wonder if the talks really went that far, because of the price issue." While Amex has a market

capitalisation of about \$26 billion, observers said it could have cost as much as \$40 billion, given the prices finan-cial institutions are fetching in the wave of mergers and acquisitions sweeping the US financial sector. At that price, Amex would have been a hely acquisition even for Citicorp, which has a

market capitalisation of

\$50 billion

although it has announced a

CITICORP /

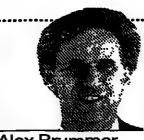
digesting Chemical, while But Citicorp probably BankAmerica is in the midst would have had to give up its of a large restructuring.
The merger of Citicorp and and Amex would have created

a financial powerhouse in credit cards and services with significant savings and mar-keting opportunities. Amex could have marketed its products to nearly 40 million Citicorp cardholders in the US, while Citicorp would have become owner of America's largest corporate card business. Moreover, the acquisition

of Amex's rapidly growing Fi-nancial Advisers unit would have given Citicorp an in-stant presence in the fee-based asset-management business, an area that many banks see as a steady and reli-

MasterCard and Visa opera tions because both prohibit their members from issuing American Express cards. Those rules, which are under investigation by the Justice Department for possible anti-trust violation, have blocked Amer's efforts to persuade American banks to issue its cards — a crucial impedim to its efforts to expand its flaghip charge-card business.

The merger talks, involving Citicorp chairman John Reed and his Amex counterpart Harvey Golub, reportedly began in November and ended last week. Mr Golub initiated the discussions and the two men met severa



Alex Brummer

HE significance of the birth of the euro range of banknotes should not be underestimated. Although banknoies per se represent a modest 6 per cent of the Euro-pean Union's gross domestic product, the appearance of the first specimen notes does remove monetary union from the realms of fantasy. The great European public, which until now has had great difficulty coming to grips with the concept of monetary union, can now almost feel the crisp new notes - in handsome colours - in their hands. In some respects, although this aspect of Dublin was pre-

cooked, it could psychologi-cally prove more important in the great European debate, both in the UK and on the Continent, than the more eso-teric aspects of monetary name ministers and heads of government locked in combat for 48-hours. When the Euro-pean Union symbol of a circle of stars, is replaced with a national emblem — be it the Queen's head, the dome of St Paul's or even the Union Jack it will be that much more difficult to oppose the euro on the basis of it being some-

Indeed, anyone thinking back to a post- second world war era when a pound bought four dollars or eight German marks, might start to feel marks, might start to feel put together more slowly on convergence grounds rather than one artificially created continental counterparts, will have a constant value in Europe and against the US dollar. Although there is a Lascelles outlines in his just released CSET names—but the continent of the continent of the convergence grounds rather than one artificially created and other devices will be more durable, as David dollar. Although there is a Lascelles outlines in his just released CSET names—but the continent of the continen view at the European Monetary Institute in Frankfurt, the precursor to the European central bank, that a suro devaluation against the dollar might be quite useful before the final locking of exchange

rates takes place on January 1, 1999. The notes will, of course, grand opportunity to raise Euro-federalism, insults to the monarchy and all other manner of red herrings. But the notes, with their familiar generic designs, have a comfortable familiarity about them. And there remains the strong possibility that the sheer weight of euros circu-lating in Britain, in much the real currency of Latin America and Eastern Europe, will prove much more acceptable in commerce than sterling.

HE perception of the euro will, be largely de-pendent, on the economic structures built to sup-port it. The first reaction from the foreign exchanges last night to the details of the stability pact — the mechanism designed to ensure fiscal discipline among member countries — was less than en-thusiastic. The German mark weakened against the US dol-lar and gilt prices climbed, recognising the attractive-ness of the UK as a likely out country, offering higher yields than those nations likely to be part of the first wave. However, such early reactions should not be taken

was first proposed by the Ger-mans, as means of ensuring that the euro be at least as hard a currency as the mark, that it was seen as lunatic, nechanistic exercise of Germanic birth which has no chance of winning wider acceptance. What is remarkable is that finance ministers and heads of government in Dublin were firm enough to ham-mer out a stability deal at all, isfy the Frankfurt-Bonn axis.

As it stands, the stability pact does provide get-out clauses with the right to the return of fines/balances in the case of recession in the range of a 0.75 per cent to 2 per cent downturn. That takes care of one worst case scenario, with a degree of po-litical flexibility if the economy slows by 0.75 per cent or less. Far more fascinating is how the stability pact will work under normal expansionary conditions. If, as all the indications are, the fiscal fixes in Italy, France and Spain are as fragile as they appear, then the stability pact could be at work as early as the first year of Emu — 1999.

N THAT case it is possible my: the fines will not only put further fiscal pressure on the offending nations but they will also pile on the monetary pressure. The act of making special deposits with the European central bank will be the equivalent of a reserve requirement squeezing do concerned. This in itself ought to be a good reason for the political authorities, in the would-be member coun-tries, to think extremely care-fully before seeking to qualify

by trickery. In some respects, released CSFI paper which envisages an Emu implosion in 2003,* as the weaker economies are forced into a down-

ward spiral by the pact. Yet being outside the euro area may well start to be a very odd position to be in. Given that much of the UK's trade is now with likely europrovide the Eurosceptics with area nations, the waves of euro in commercial and per eventually overwhelm ster-ling. There also is the risk that Britain could become the recipient of unmanageable currency inflows, which will make the sterling exchange rate even less competitive for UK exports than if we were

inside Emu. As far as the City of London is concerned, there is almost certainly as much benefit to be gained by being an off-shore financial centre — as Britain has been for decades in the Eurobond and Eurodol lar markets — as being at the centre. Although the efforts to exclude the out-countries from Target, the euro clear-ing system, could be more problematical than the Bank of England has conceded.

Britain from being inside and outside the euro system. However, given the UK's eco-nomic roller coaster in the post-second world war period, the possibility of being part of a stable, less inflationary monetary system is seductive. Oddly enough, the release of the euro notes could provide the populist momen-tum for Emu which has been missing from the debate. *The Crash of 2003 by David Lascelles. Published by the too seriously.
It is worth remembering Lascelles. Published by that when the stability pact | CSFI (Tel: 0171-493-0173)

Granada media chief exits amid acrimony

lan King

UNCAN Lewis, the former head of Mercury Communications, has quit his £280,000-a-year job as head of Granada's media division after a row with his boss. Charles Allen, it emerged last night.

Mr Lewis, who joined Granade only eight months ago, is expected to receive a sub-

stantial pay-off.

News of Mr Lewis's depar-ture, which came after the stock market closed, stunned the City. It is the second time he has left a company after a matter of months in the job and following differences

with colleagues.
Often described as "abrasive", Mr Lewis left Cable & Wireless in September 1996, after well-publicised disagreements with James Ross, the group's former chief execu-

Granada said Mr Lewis had let after he and the company "recognised an incompatibil-ity of approaches", and had agreed to "part on an amica-be basis".

s some six years younger than Mr Allen — had never got on with his boss, and that he departure was no surprise. One analyst said: "We always suspected that they didn't hit it off, and he was never even formally introduced to us in presentations." Meanwhile, Granada insid-

Wickes boss

in line for

failure fee

if hard work

doesn't pay

era denied Mr Lewis's departure was due to recent criti-cism of the group's flagship Street, or that it suggested there were any problems at Granada Sky Broadcasting, the group's new satellite TV

Instead, they identified Mr Lewis's lack of experience in the television industry as a key reason for his departure.
One said: "He was an outsider in this industry, which is really a business quite unique from any other, and where creative, instinctive

skills are at a premium.
"It soon became clear that the relationship was not working in a way in which it should do and, given that it is such an important role, it had to be resolved relatively quickly."

Granada has named Steve Morrison, chief operating of-ficer of the media division, as

Mr Lewis's replacement. Mr Morrison, who has been with Granada since 1974, formerly worked alongside. Devid Plowright, who was controversially ousted as head of Granada Television shortly after Granada's chaircame chief executive in 1991. Announcing Mr Morrison's appointment, Mr Allen said: "During Steve's tenure as managing director, both Gra-nade TV and LWT have dra-matically improved their profitability, whilst enhancing their reputation for creative excellence."



Roger Gowe

BILL Grimsey, the new Crippled DIY retailer Wickes, will receive a "fail-ure fee" if the company's shares do not begin trading

again in January.
Mr Grimsey's deal was
revealed yesterday in the
prospectus for the rights issue of shares, which should allow the share suspension, begun in June, to be lifted. It says: "If trading in the

company's shares is not restored in January 1997, a compensation payment of £25,000 will be paid."

Wickes directors were not available last night to explain this reversal of the common "success fee" prin-ciple in corporate finance. A spokesman said Mr Grimsey had worked very hard on the recovery programme, and he and finance director Bill Hoskins had been awarded bonuses in recognition of that effort.

Mr Grimsey will get a one-off payment of £115,000 in recognition of the exceptional services he has provided to the group since July 1996", the prospectus

That sum will be doubled if, as is widely expected, the company is taken over before the end of August and Mr Grimsey leaves within a year after the takeover. Mr Hoskins will get a similar deal on his special payment .000,0012 to

These payments are on top of salaries of £230,000 and £190,000 respectively. and options on shares worth three times those

The prospectus also shows that two former nonexecutive directors, including former Marks & Spencor chief Lord Sieff, receive pensions of £12,000 a year.

have second get the bird

ARESCUE plan was offered yesterday to people who invested millions of pounds in an ostrich-farming company which went into liquidalinaA ni aoit However, some investors

may take flight when they realise it will mean them having to stump up more cash. Around 2,700 people put nearly £22 million into the Os-trich Farming Corporation, lured by promises of annual returns in excess of 50 per cent. After the firm ceased trading it was found that nearly a third of the ostriches sold to investors never

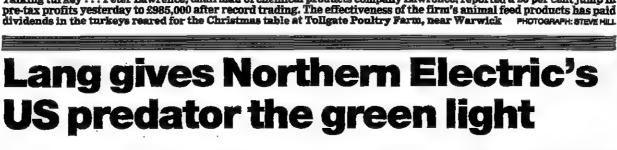
Those people now have the chance to recoup losses by signing up with a UK-based company called Belautruche (UK), says a prospectus outlining the venture. In return for their ostriches

— being kept on farms in Belgium — and a cash outlay, the investors will have a share in the company. People will have to pay a minimum of 13 per cent of their original investment. If they originally invested £20,000, that would mean £2,600. The prospectus states that

investors are being offered the opportunity to invest in a company with a holding in an existing ostrich farm.

Belgian farmer Eddy Nachtergaele, a director of the Belgian base of Belautruche, supplied the ostriches to OFC and they are still kept on his farms. The board includes three of the original OFC investors, who are also committee members of the Ostrich Owners Protection Group.

The share option must raise at least £1.5 million by January 10 for the rescue to go ahead. If the capital is not raised, Mr Nachtergaele will repossess the existing birds to recover fees he has



Electric in the expectation that further blds could be in the offing. The trio are the

only Recs of the 12 originally privatised still independent

and not subject to a bid.

Helenz Smith in Athens

ELL hath no fury like

the wronged taxman and 481 tax evaders

have quickly discovered

this in Greece. After setting up a crime division and em-

ploying gunboats to hunt

down smart smugglers, the governing socialists in Ath-

ens have now devised a new

way to crack down on the

"If you can't nab them,

shame them," proclaimed economy minister Yannos

Papantoniou. So every

Greek newspaper carried names and addresses of the

culprits yesterday, running

some on the front page.

Among those listed were

national sport.

the way for another round of takeovers and by US utility Dominion

mergers among the privatised utilities yesterday when In-Labour said it was con-cerned that Northern would be "swallowed up" in the American utility's balance dustry Secretary Ian Lang waved through a £782 million bid for Northern Electric. sheet. Shadow energy minis-ter John Battle said the firm had to be kept within the reg-As the Newcastle-based regional electricity company and US predator CE Electric clashed over the terms of the offer, shares rose sharply in London Electricity, Yorkshire Electricity and Southern ulator's reach.

Mr Lang said he was acting in line with advice from the electricity industry watch-dog, Prof Stephen Littlechild, and the Office of Fair Trad-Mr Lang said Prof Little share in dividends over the price".

prominiment conturier.

olive oil merchants, night-

club barons and even state-

It has not taken long for any of the offenders to deny

however, the European

heavy fines on all of its "cherlahed" names.

pantoniou points out,

amount to 250 billion drachmas, the sum the gov-

ernment hopes to rake in with its newly announced

abolishment of tax breaks

The fines imposed on the ten biggest names amount

Greeks are among the

to 80 billion drachmas.

The penalties, as Mr Pa-

Union's poorest member most 40 per cent of the state has been quick to slap country's gross domestic

product.

the crime. Protests aside

owned banks.

Traders also marked up child intended to modify next nine months. Northern Sast Midlands shares 28.5p, to Northern's licence so that its shares rose 42.5p to 645p, because of the credit rating had to be maintained at investment grade would now also clear the bid status, effectively preventing weighed the likelihood of the tained at investment grade status, effectively preventing the US firm from allowing the British company's finances to

Talking turkey . . . Peter Lawrence, cheirman of chemical products company Lawrence, reported a 20 per cent jump in

CE Electric and its owners — the Nebraska-based utility CalEnergy and construction firm Peter Kiewit Sons have also agreed to supply Prof Littlechild with financial information on Northern.
Northern chairman David
Morris welcomed Mr Lang's
decision and said the bid

dodgers, claiming that 500

years of Ottoman rule taught them the tricks of

the trade. Since the 1950s

tax collectors say they have

battled to stamp out a

thriving black market be-

lieved to rob the state of al-

The government's anti-quated fiscal system (com-

puters have just begun to

be installed in tax offices)

and rampant corruption

have been blamed for the scale of the national sport.

The socialists have al-

ready voted to ensure that the method is not only on

the statute books but en-

would now be fought on its

bid succeeding. Northern is to lobby big City shareholders and its local shareholders up to the offer deadline of next

The Prudential confirmed last night that it believed the CE Electric offer undervalued Northern. An executive said 650p a share did not reflect an adequate premium. But with close to a third of sharehold ers having already accepted the offer, CE Electric chair and the Office of Fair Trading. The OFT submitted its views on the Dominion bid to the DTI yesterday.

would now be longed to its man David Sokol said Northern had been unable to find a "white knight" and the offer represented a "very full

Greece splashes tax dodgers on the front page

Olive of refinery, Dr5.5 bn 7. Macedonian Centre Clothing: Dr4 bn eios Tylica Electronic goods: Dr3.7 bn

Top Ten fines

Trader: Dr27.7 bn 2. Dimitris Karamani Ofive oil merchant Dr15,5 bit 3. Vansilis Pana Film company: 0.7 bn 4. Greek Olive Oils 5, ETBA Leasing. Dr5.7. brt. 6. Polyvios Ciarysika

9. Artaine.
Olive of marketing: Dr3.5 bn
10. Timeleon Kanatas
Construction: Dr3.1 bn

Ladbroke

News in brief

sells hotel Ladbroke Group said yester-day it had sold the 400-bed-

for \$47 million (£28.5 million) to US group Interstate Hotels. The group also announced it had reached an out-of-court settlement in a long-running rent dispute with the landlords of the Paris Hilton. As a result, Ladbroke will take an exceptional charge of £16 million into its 1996 accounts.

room Washington Vista Hotel

Bunzi in talks

Bunzl, the group which makes cigarette papers and Caledonia Investments has filters, is in talks to buy the sold its 44 per cent stake to bonded fibres business of Virginia-based company Ameri-can Filtrona for about £50 million. The business was originally founded by Robert Buncompany owned by family formed to buy Bristow.

BP in Columbia BP is planning to invest

Chairman leaves

British Building, the materi-

als group, yesterday said its

and group, yesterday said its non-executive chairman. Dr Robert Paine, was leaving the company due to "irreconcil-able differences" between

him and the other directors.

around \$600 million (£362 million) in Columbia next year, the group said yesterday, matching its investment in the country in 1996. BP has now invested some £1.2 billion in Columbia.

Caledonia stake sale

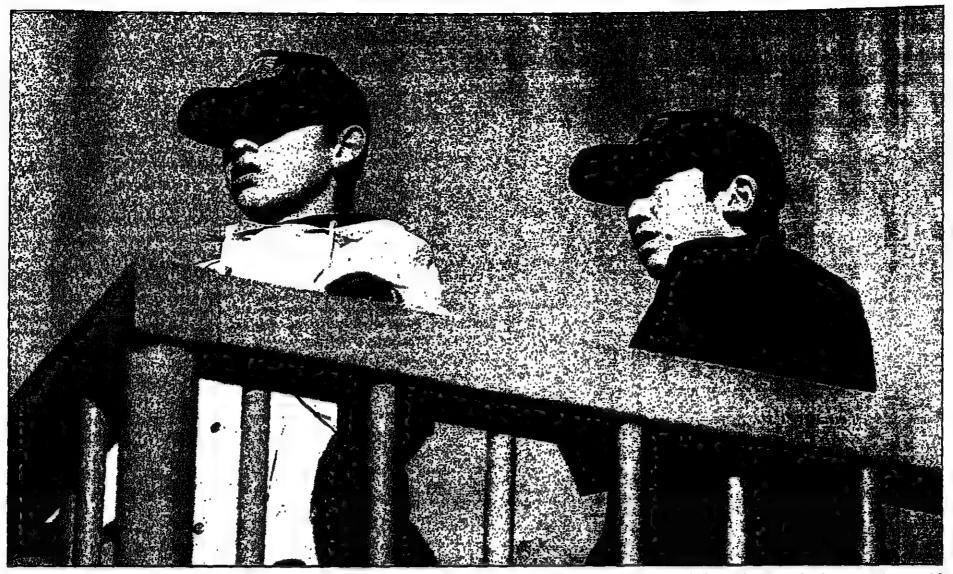
sold its 44 per cent stake in Bristow Helicopters to Offshore Logistics for around £49.7 million. As part of the deal, Caledonia will take 6 per cent of Offshore, and will get a zl. If the deal is completed, it will be bought by WBT, a Holdings, the new company

		•
WRIST RATES	- BANK SELLS	
ustralia 2.02	France 6.38	Iţ
<i>u</i> stria 17.47	Germany 2.48	N
elgium 51.18	Greece 395.00	N
anada 2.19	Hong Kong 12.50	N
prus 0.7525	India 59,50	N
At D shamper	Ireland 0 0606	

italy 2,480 Maita 0,5780 Natherlands 2,79 New Zealand 2,2980 Norway 10.46 Portugal 252.10 Saudi Arabia 6.17

Japan isn't working any more

The land of the sinking yen is in economic crisis. Jobs-for-life are being replaced by hire-and-fire. KEITH HARPER in Tokyo asks what's going wrong



Japanese have to join the

olitical and financial structures began to emerge. Japa-nese products, which in the 1970s and 1980s were the best made and most price-competitive in the world, lost their allure. Like the multinationals in Europe and North America, the great trading houses were forced to move production offshore to their more competitive neighbours in the Pacific Basin, Britain and North America.

With the hollowing out of the industrial base came a financial implosion. The supervision and management of Japanese banks was shown to be deeply flawed, leading to a loss of confidence which made the Nikkei, the star stock market index of the 1980s, a laggard which almost totally missed out on the rag-ing bull market that has taken New York and the European bourses to the high-

est levels in their history.
The completion of the Uruguay trade round — designed to open Japanese markets —

There was a belief that Japan could halt the eco-nomic decline, lack of initiative and dynamism which kept it in recession during The International Monetary Fund, perhaps more in hope that recovery would gain mo-mentum after the protracted downturn. The deflationary forces which had crushed asset prices and optimism were in retreat.

For a few months the West breathed again: growth in Japan would counteract the slowdowns expected in the US after a prolonged expansion and in Europe as it adjusted

However, as the year draws to a close, there is growing evidence that a longer-term cultural, political and economic malaise may see Japan left behind by its flourishing Pacific neighbours. Consumer spending, which

accounts for 60 per cent of the economy, dropped last month by 4.6 per cent — one of the biggest monthly falls on record. Government officials, with the contract to make the con wishing to make light of the drop, cite the adverse impact of a cool summer and an out-break of food poisoning on on permanently.

retail and restaurant seles. long-term credit bank sor brightly describes as But consumers have kept research institute and a top "other traditional cultures". their wallets shut for years.

None of the traditional remedies has fixed the eco-nomic mess. Government spending programmes lav-But as the yen soured to much of the present decade. nance engineered a currency new heights against the dollar at the start of this decade, the as if the sleeping giant would cracks in Japan's industrial, be aroused from its slumber. Bank of Japan brought interest rates to record lows

While Japan's most important multinationals have shown signs of recovery, the domestic economy is stuck. Over the past quarter, it has grown by 0.1 per cent. Next year, the Nomura research institute estimates. Japan's GDP will improve by little more than 1 per cent. Enter Professor Hiroshi Te-

He is leading a task group to investigate ways of encouraging tourism on a grand scale, bringing in not just the

N PROK Takeuchi's Asian utopia, hotels will have discount rates. noodles will be 21 a bowl, and road signs will give equal prominence to English and Korean. A Universal Studios, sup-

posedly larger than the original film lot in Los Angeles, is being built, and there could be a place for a second Dispursuits will be augmented by local festivals, improved use of Tokyo's nine sym-phony orchestras, and division of the capital into well-alguposted tourist sones. To launch the initiative,

Prof Takeuchi intends to tap the latent talent of thousands toured oversess with their husbands. They will take charge of a vast network of new information centres in every town and city.

As Prof Takeuchi contamplates this upheaval in Japa-nese culture, he also ponders what life could be like if his country does not take this leap into the unknown. The the dollar and in the long reform of Japan's heavily-reg-

term, he believes, the rate will decline to 150 or even more. Into this uncertain pot. he stirs the drift away from Japanese factories to parts of Asia where labour is cheaper — and to Britain. Some 10 per cent of Japan's production is now outside the country and

nine million and the productivity of workers at Nissan's plant at Washington, County Durham, has more than matched that of Japan's best. All this could set the stage

for a long-awaited showdown between opposing forces in the political establishment. Since his re-election, Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto yen continues to float against has undertaken a broad

getting 13 different areas, may lead to new growth and produce lower prices for both But it will be tough to per-suade the bureaucrats to dismantle the well-tried system Five years ago Japan was producing 13 million cars a year. That figure is down to strong exports. If the civil servants hold sway, the protec tive planning that for so long

deregulation programme which began this month, tar-

has dominated Japan's domestic economy could lead to its long-term decline. Unless he takes a knife to Japan's excessive living and

wage costs, consumer demand will lag and firms will search for cheaper accommodation abroad. A recent survey by the Nippon research institute revealed that 55 per cent feared they or a family mem-ber would be unemployed

within a year. Unemploy-

ment, at 3.4 per cent, is low by Western standards, but the prospect of substantial layoffs if stagnation continues is being talked about openly. Dreaded short-term contracts are replacing the jobs-for-life philosophy that has been the lynchpin of Japan's post-war recovery. Companies are rejigging their labour forces to cut costs and make

shimoto is showing signs of term growth of 1.75 per cent, he has announced a shakeop

DECISION break up the Nip pon Telegrapi and Telephone Corporation to is in the offing and the Cabi net is drawing up a much broader package to revitalise wholesale, retail, housing and transportation markets in the

new year.
It will be a slow process, because the Japanese are a conservative people, but nothing else has worked. The days of Japan's double-digit growth are gone. They belong now to Asia's newest tigers, such as Korea and Vietnam, and nobody has seen the beginnings of the best of China, Japan's twin policy of financial reform and deregulation and the opening of its frontiers to streams of visitors may work. But Japan will have to countenance a swifter change than it has so far been ready to concede; otherwise the more confident tigers will take over

Fly me, I work for half pay. Smiles are obligatory

ISHIN Shigheta is a new breed Japanese worker in a country where the lobs-for-life ethos has been shattered by

recession, writes Keith Harp-Miss Shigheta is an air bostess on a year's contract with All Nippon Airways and is being paid only 50 per cent of staff rates. If she impresses she will be taken

objection to the plan be-cause the move protected the jobs of people at the company, even though some of them took volun-tary redundancy.

Her arrival at the company is a reflection of its highly qualified, went to an apartment is not posspolicy to cut costs by 15 per university and the opportunities to much."

The rent is hig and to buy an apartment is not posspolicy to cut costs by 15 per university and the opportunities to much."

Her father thought here. things.
She has friends who

travel two hours each way into Takva for work every day and are exhausted. She lives close to Haneda air-port, but conditions are Miss Shigheta says that cramped in the two-roomed while there is no guarantee that she shares with her she will be allowed to stay.

had a job for life in his company. Then he was asked to

take early retirement, and died soon afterwards. will survive at ANA. "It's a very happy company and a smile is part of our train-ing." But she agrees that jobs are maintained, but in-dustry is pushing older work-her lair.

Quick Crossword No. 8309

STAGECOACH

B T B A B H

LEAFLET STEAM

A I E O T R O

CART HUNASOUT

A P T C O O

TAPPED ULSTER

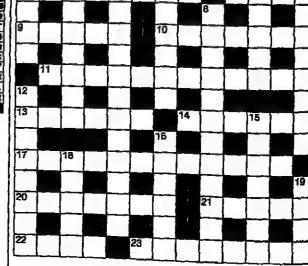
RICKSHAW DRAY

I E P R I E O

ALISI MINDFUL

UNASCENSION NO STR

Solution No. 8308



Across

1 Tepid (8) 5 Prima donna (4) 9 Argentine dance (5) 10 Strong paper (7)

11 Study of triangles, angles 13 Curiosity, strange object (6) 14 Russian plain (6) 17 Running of a household

20 Dirty (7) 21 Outdo (5) 22 Get rid of -- a hut (4) 23 N American Indian axe (8)

Down

1 Tardy (4) 2 Associated — relations (7) 3 Daydreamer (4,8) 4 Awake memories of (6)

6 Creek (5) 7 Minutely examined (8) 8 Use of words whose sound suggests the sense (12) 12 Riding breaches (8)

18 Male relative (5) 19 Anti-alrcraft fire (4)

15 Cure-all (7) 22 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on **0991 338 248.** Calls cost 50p per minute Mon-Fri, Barn-Sprn, and 450 per minute at all other times. Service supplied by ATS

Ruddles County Riddles. No. 13. Pub Challenge. been instructed to lin, but

was a dream come true. He had a voucher for unlimited was the 1996 Hartfordshire Pub Quiz Championship after six graelling rounds. But his victory was by no means final. He had yet

to claim the prize. He was placed in the ber of the Queen's Head Pub

in Westcott. There were two doors, each leading to

different rooms. Behind one

of the doors, lay the prize, access to the love of his life -Ruddles County.

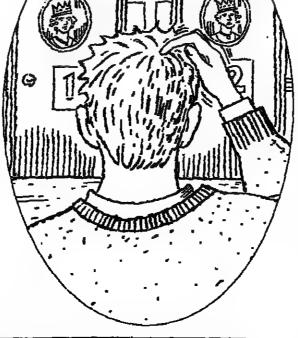
The challenge was set. He did not know behind which door (they were marked 1 and 2] lay which prize. Beside each door stood a barman to help bim

that one of the barmon had

However, the catch was

Peter did not know which. Pater stapped forward, asked one of the men a question, and upon hearing his easwer confidently strode through door 1 to claim his voucher.

Peter is of course too busy to tell us how he decide which door to choose. Worked out which door to chaosa. Do you know how



I word to make here I would a mark it would the many it would the word bloss to be the bloss of the beauty the word bloss of the word bloss of the beauty in the second bloss of the beauty is not been and the second bloss of the beauty in the second bloss of the beauty is not bloss of the bloss of

Ore

1309

The Guardian

It was shattering news. One of the American team sent by President Clinton to negotiate a peace had been sleeping with Britain's enemy, a member of the political wing of the IRA. It was an awful day for peace; a great day for headlines such as "Sex Scandal Perils Peace Talks". But this "Dangerous Liaison" was a fiction.

Roy Greenslade on how lies
flourish in a climate of hate

Kiss and tellies

party had raised the matter with Maxhew and the Prime Minister. There were no quotes from either and utterly unfrue. But this is not a familiar story

T WAS a story which would send tremors around those capitals of the western world which were anxiously moni-toring the teetering peace process in Northern Ireland. "Dangerous Liaison", bellowed the front ige headline in the Mail Sunday. The subheading told the tale: "Major warned by M15 of link between top IRA man and US peace negotiator"

The implications were explosive. Anything to do with American involvement in Northern Irish politics was desperately sensitive.
Unionists bitterly resented the presence in Belfast of Senator George Mitchell, the greying former Senate leader who had originally been despatched by Bill Clinton to see if he could break the decommissioning deadlock which presented all sides from sitting prevented all sides from sitting down at the same table, even dur-ing an IRA ceasefire. If Mitchell. ng an IRA ceasette it without the now chairing the talks without the still-excluded Sinn Fein — failed, the peace process would be back to square one. Any suggestion that he or his team were in some way compromised by close personal links to Sinn Fein would have a devastating effect on the credibility of Clin-ton's efforts to broker a deal.

The Mail on Sunday's story could not have been more explicit. It claimed that both Clinton and John Major, the FBI and Patrick Mayhew had all been told by MI5 that Mitchell's deputy, Martha Pope, had been having an affair Fein, Gerard Kelly

Fein, Gerard Kelly
Pope was chairing the Talks
Support Team, working with her
long-time colleague Mirchell.
Kelly was jailed in 1973 for his
part in the Old Bailey bomb.
imprisoned in the Maze, he
escaped in 1983 and spent four
years on the run before being
extradited from Holland. Freed in
1989, he is now one of Sinn Fein's
most senior members and was most senior members and was elected earlier this year in the elections devised by Mitchell as a way round the decommissioning deadlock. Fie would be a Sim Fem delegate to the peace talks, if and

when the party is ever included.
The MIS report, said the Mail on
Sunday, had details of secret weekend trysts between the 51-year old
American diplomat and Kelly, 42, who had been writing romantic poetry for her. It was accompanied by a call from the DUP leader, Iam Paisley, for Pope to be sacked.

There was only one problem

with the story: it was completely

about the sort of journalistic self delution which spewns giant cock-ups. Instead this is a story about the extraordinarily perverse sions when some kind of spotlight can be trained on the casual dirty trickery which passes for political discourse in those benighted Six

Why did the Mail on Sunday publish a totally false story? What convinced a seasoned reporter and an experienced editor to risk running an exclusive which was, and this is a well absence which was, and this is a well-chosen euphemism

this is a well-chosen euphemism, bunkum? Every material "fact" was wrong and, by extension, every immendo.

The Mail on Sunday story of December 1 — bylined by the crime reporter Chester Stern—told how the M15 secrets were revealed to the Democratic Unionist Party conference by Mr Paisley, who told them: "People in Senator Mitchell's office are not to be Mitchell's office are not to be trusted for they're friends of the

Paisley's deputy, Peter Robin-son, evidently told the paper his Climton, which fitted*page 14

Prope or Kelly Mayhew was quoted and, in the latest edition, there was a statement from the Northarn Ireland Office (NIO), the form tre of the controversy. The Mail on Sunday was not alone in breaking the story. The brash Dublin-based tabloid, the Sunday World, ram a variant which alleged that Kelly set out on a falled mission to

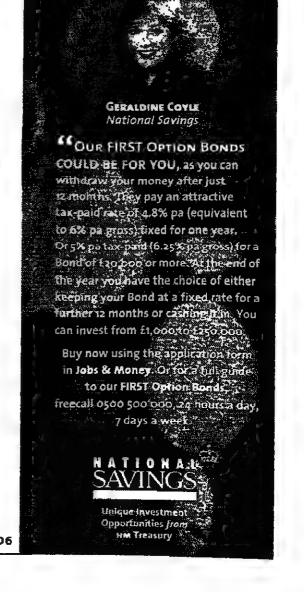
seduce Pope.

The ailing Express on Sunday, which has lost hundreds of thousands of readers to the Mail on Sunday in recent years, could not bear being scooped by its rival. So it made the classic mistake of lifting the story for its later editions. In a swift rewrite, it repeated the

salacious demils. quickly. Agency reports were soon appearing on computer screens in papers around the globe. By coin-cidence, the Washington correspondent of the New York Post, Deborah Orin, read the Mail on Sunday at Heathrow Airport on

SAVINGS Investment Ideas ELPING OU MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

ENGINEENDING TO BUY WAY FREE FUT IN UST OVER A SELECT SET IN Expect Can't afford to tie my money up for any longer than this. What do you suggest? MS-S-Garrery



No truth about their tryst ... only in the imaginations of lan Paisley and a few journalists were Gerard Kelly (left) and Martha Pope (below) lovers.

But why let the truth spoil a good scandal?

Quiz answers

Gert, Mel B, Mel C, Victoria and Emma, aka The Spice Girls, according to an indepth political interview in the Spectator.
 (d) Gert Spice, ditto.
 (e) Gert Spice, ditto.

4. Liz Hurley, whose performance as Delitah in an American TV mini-series was savaged by the critics.
5. Stallone himself in an interview in

6. Eddie Grundy, of the Archers, threat-ened with eviction by the ruthless Simon

Pemberton.
7. (b) The Monkees
8. The late Str Frank Whittle, Inventor of the jet engine. There can only be 24 OMs.

at any one time. 9. The euro, the European currency unit,

unveiled this week by the European Com-mission. 10, False. There's no such thing as Santer

Clause.

11. (c) Celery.
12. A virtual John Major: it is the web site address of No 10 Downing Street.
13. The Arctic. The 36 snaps showed soil

13. The Arctic The 30 states strong of conditions and vegetation taken on an expedition mounted by scientist Matthews, who is suing his local Boots for the loss of the pictures.

14. Charles and Diana — who spent an

uncomfortable evening together at Prince William's carol service at Eton.

visiam e gard service at Litton.
15. The Pope, whose falling health has
forced him to abandon his usual Christ-mas Day mass, though he will deliver the
Christmas blessing to pilgrims in St
Patents St

Christmas biess Peter's Square.

0-4 Celery 5-9 Saity 10-14 Sugary

How you rate

Us on us

The British view

really had been a man of honour he would have resigned, and in an era when it seems no one resigns unless forced into it, he really would have earned brownie points, not just in his party but in the country at large. But he didn't. Instead, he aggra-vated his offence by "dissembling" as the committee says. That's about as close to calling a man a liar as it could get. The Portsmouth News

Well he's back, but how long will he stay? Brazilian footballer erson finally returned to the North-East. Now it is

time to stop messing about. He signed a contract which earns him a reputed £15,000 a-week to play for Middlesborough and he should honour it. The Northern Echo

An amazing animal res-cue was staged by motor mechanics when a cheeky hamster was trapped inside a car. James Wesley could not believe it when he got into his Peugeot 106 and found that his seat belt had been chewed to bits by the rodent. The bamster had squeezed through a quarter of an inch air vent in the boot of the car and had made a nest behind the panel with the chewed up seathelt. **Bolton Evening News**

Them on them

The global view

Members of the crowd recalled how 36 years ago they saw 69 of their relatives and friends being silenced with guns when they demanded their rights to freedom. "The new constitution means a lot to us," said 70-year-old Mrs Gladys Ntull. "We saw the blood of our relatives sink into the soil and their bodies lose life. This day is for them; to restore the rights they fought for." Cape Times on the signing of the new South Airlean constitution at Sharpeville

The town of Singleton was declared a natural disaster area yesterday with damage to house

nursing homes, crops, cars and the local hospital. A resident said of the storm with hail the size of cricket balls: "We've just seen Independence Day and it was just like that." Sydney Morning Herald

Pot as medicine may now be the law in California, but that does not mean Orange County Sheriff Brad Gates has to like it. Proposition 215 legalised marijuana for medical use in California but growing or possessing marijuana remains illega under US statutes. "Wo are obviously going to provide the name of any doctor involved with marijuana to federal agents," Gates said.



THE WEEK SKELETONS IN CUPBOARDS

IT WAS a week characterised by the clatter of sheletons in free fall from shelebons in free fall from enghourds, and, naturally, it was in politics, and Tory politics specifically where that essignous rattle was most acutely and embarrase ingly heard.

No gassing needed, of enurse, that it was the MP for Firmouth Suiton, Cary Streetis, whose house entiad

Streeter, whose bones exited most poisity from the armoire, A hard-liner with per ticularly pungent views out youth crime (he's against

it), he was invited to give a talk to teenagers at a local school on the subject. Believing perhaps that he was speaking on lobby terms, Streeter confessed that at the age of 18 he used to race his Ford Anglia against a friend the wrong way at a roundabout. The admission was faith-

newsletter and sent out to 900 parents. Denied the usual tactic of blaming the press for quoting him out of context, he explained that it was something he looked back on with horror, "I could bave kill ed someone," he wailed. Streeter's senior col-

fully reported in the school

league, the Paymaster General David Willetts resigned in disgrace after being as near as dammit rumbled for trying to stifle investigation into the Nail Hamilton sleage affair. Willetts, it was reported, was

known in the Tory hierarchy by the fetching name of Two Brains until his skelelon fell out of its hideaway. He might have been someone imporismi one day he may well be saying now had he pos-sessed merely one brain like the Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames

Soames it was who apologised to MPs for previously having pool-pooled all those wussy Gulf war veterans' stories of having Gulf war syndrome. There might be concaded be sympthing he conceded, be something in it after all. He promptly announced an inquiry into the syndrome, which will doubtless ensure that the Gulf war skeleton remains securely re-interred until the Blair government is in power and responsible for the massive compensation payments that may follow. An entire fitted wardrobe

spite of allm bones belong-ing to the Spice Girls

my camera, front door keys

and passport. Arrested in the

early hours of the morning, I was locked up for 16 hours in custody. There were small

mercies: when I commented to the man who strip-

searched me that it was a bad

day to have haemorrhoids, he

told me we weren't going to

Although I believe it should have been immedi-

in the wrong place at the

wrong time, that didn't pre-vent them releasing me on

police ball giving them two

months to charge me, later

protest during this period of

egal limbo. The authorities

extended by another two months. My lawyer damp-ened my enthusiasm for

could charge me, could

the arrest — on being

informed that the case

Headlines to

his talks process. In a bizarre

story, it's just another odd detail.

Stern pointed out to Jordan that

they weren't sales rivals, so could

they swop information and run

the story together the next morn-

ing? Jordan obliged with his Pais-

ley quotes. Stern offered his Maybew quote.

Quite why the Mayhew quote -

which hardly amounts to an admission - should be so valuable

is hard to divine. It said: "I know

nothing to lead me to doubt the statement by Senator Mitchell that

neither he nor any member of his

office has any contact with Sinn

But we have to imagine that

Fein."

sink all hopes of

against me had "collapsed"

extend my bell date, could

ately evident that I had been

get that intimate.

crashed out late in the week, when it emerged in an interview in the Speciator that the populars, previously assumed to be broadly in favour of monetary union and the single currenty. were secret Eurosceptics, and forthright Thatcher

PHOTOMONTAGE BY ROGER TOOTH

supporters.
But perhaps the greatest cupboard opening of the week was down to Richard Addis, the one-time novice monk, now editor of the Express newspapers. Addispulled the release lever on the closeted bones of his entire profession, when he disclosed in an interview to be broadcast on BBC North today that "journalists as a bunch have pulled all sorts dela selisational and dispon-of papers on becape and peer est much of the time." Will we ever recover from the shock of such a

revelation? Jonathan Margolia

me that signing for ill-gotten

liems wouldn't huri my case. I politely refused and when

he asked again in March I

In early April the police finally returned my scarf.

They were even nice enough

to include a copy of my mug

wroogful arrest (Tam Ameri-

can), but decided not to press

Looking back, I know the police must have been under

a lot of stress on the night of the Brixton riots, but does

that explain what happened

to me? Neighbourhood lead-

ers tell me that community-police relations in Brixton

are improving. But the residents I talked to during the

December "incident" blamed

the police for overreacting to

blamed the community, one

claiming that assignment to

Brixton was like deportation

These tensions run deep.

bourhood who drives around

with two giant pigs. A sign on It reads: "We are NOT going

There is a man in my neigh-

in a big pink tank adorned

a peaceful demonstration.

And most of the police I

refused a second time.

abot. I wanted to sue for



1. This hair's all right but we don't agree with his tax policies." Who won't be voting for Yony Blair?

2. "When push comes to shove, the pounds, dollars and deutschmarks can't be equal. It's a terrible trick on the British peo-ple." Who derided mone

tary union? (a) John Redwood (b) Sir James Colds (d) Gerl Spice

3. "The old-fashioned family of 2.4 kids is dead." Who bemouned the demise of the nuclear family?

(a) Victoria Gillick (b) Victoria Spice (c) Gerl Spice (d) Harriet Harman 4. "She preens and leers

In a desperate attempt to seem sexy." Who didn't bring the house down? S. "Rocky and Rambo had nothing to do with reality

and are bygone comic-book mythology." Who attacked Sylvester Statione's ocuvre? 6. Which tenant farm

threatened eviction led to statements of support from Agriculture blinister Angela Browning and her Labour counterpart Quein Strang? 7. Which band ar

plans to re-form?
(a) The Moody Sives
(b) The Monkees
(c) The Wiss
(d) The Spice Girls

B. Sir John Gleigerd became a memb Order of Worth Wi did he replace?

9. What does this symbol 10, Britain introduce the euro by 1999, according to the "Santer Clause".

True or false? 11. Which offensiv weapon was benned from the terraces at Billingham F.C.? (a) Carrot (b) Aubergine (c) Calery (d) Radiochio

12. http://www.nu 10.gov.uk. Who lives here 13. Berry Metthewa's hollday snape could cost Boots £30,000. What do

they depict? 14. 4 think they look strained together." Which troubled couple? (b) Charles and Diana (b) Edward and Sophie (c) Andrew and Sarah (d) Tommy and Pamels

15. Who won't be attending the Pope's public mass

on Christmas Day? Answers, bottom left of this page

Streets where innocence is no defence

This week last year December 13, 1995

MHE ad in Loot said fistshare in Clapham
North, I only found out
after signing the leese that our front door was technically in Brixton. Fresh off the boat from America to do research for my Harvard PhD on race relations, I had no idea how important this detail could be.

On the night of December 13, 1995, I turned on the news to images of Brixton in flames. I had to take to the streets this was a heavensent opportunity to gather first-hand data. On my way home from

three hours of interviews I noticed an abandoned car and thought I should call the police. I was raised in the merican mid-West, where Officer Friendly teaches youngsters to be good citizens. Just another corn-fed nutter, someone later

remarked. When two police vans turned the corner I was ner-vous, but I hadn't done anything wrong so I moved over to the kerb, eager to make a statement. By way of a greeting the officer turned me round and frisked me. He



smelled my hands for petrol and talked of Molotov cocktails. He pointed to a small pile of stuff around the corner and asked me what it was. A quick investigation revealed a kitchen apron. a bottle of wine, an electric torch and a joint of beef. Nothing dangerous. Well, He then accused me of

stealing it from the car. After I | close to stolen goods susexplained who I was, he crossed the street and a second cop came by. He asked why I would choose to live in Brixton — this neighbourbood where people would mug or stab you for nothing. Just then the first officer came back and arrested me. He didn't like my story. My arrest

pected of having been taken during the Brixton riots".

They searched my house allowing me to put on my only sweater. Five minutes later at the police station they confiscated it and hald i for the next three months.

They also confiscated my

prevent me from leaving the make life hell. Over three months after

- I went to collect my belongings. For some reason, the police withheld my scarf.

They then tried to return to me the allegedly stolen goods (with the notable exception of the beef). Although the officer assured

to take any more stick from the Old Bill."

to Siberia.

forum, of Mitchell's reply, and of the radio broadcast by Birney Stern, and his editor Jonathan Holborow, read Mayhem's quote as a kind of nod and wink that the story might be true. It was not, to their minds, an unequivocal denial. In their early editions it was their only official response

but they kept trying the NIO until they found a duty officer. He issued a statement, tacked on to their story in the final edition, which echoes almost word for word the one issued three weeks before to Birney.
"Any meetings which
the independent chairman or his staff have
with any individual are
entirely a matter for their judgment and not a Government." In other words, though

Holborow and Stern, did not realise it, this spokesman was merely reading from the NIO's prepared hymn sheet. They thought it was yet another equivocating statement, a code for their story being true. The NIO thought it the a)propriate response to a rumour they thought had been killed off

they thought had been killed off three weeks before.
"If the story was all bullocks," said an exasperated executive, "why didn't they say so?" He couldn't understand why even if Mayhew didn't want to say so in public, he didn't do so off the record, as guidance to the reporter.

reporter The NIO will have none of this. It believes that its denial was suitably forthright and the paper failed in its main duty, to check it with the two people it was about to libel. That charge, at least, is unanswerable

Ironically, there is some support for the Mail on Sunday view within the Mitchell camp. The Americans can't fathom why neither Mayhew nor the NIO issued clearer, stronger denials which would have made the story go

away Pope is, according to colleagues, shaken by the experience. She was previously sergeant-at-arms in the Senate, the first woman to hold the post which involves running its large bureaucracy and acting as its senior security officer

both Jordan and Stern knew noth-ing of the allegations in the As one close friend told me, she has spent 20 years in American

politics, "She's been around the track," she said. "She knows politics isn't for cissies but this kind of stuff takes it to a whole new level." Even after the denials there were new rumours. It was claimed that M15 had taped Pope talking on a mobile phone saying: "I'm going to Donegal for the weekend with Kelly." But she had a staff member, Kelly Currie, so it was a case of mistaken identity.

Except that Pope doesn't have a mobile phone. And so it goes on: lies, obfuscations, innuendos, an endless succession of unsupport-able allegations which muddy the

T appears that Pope — who is staying in a Belfast hotel — has been issued by the Gov-erament with a credit card, which she uses for her meals every day. Her routine is therefore instantly checkable if the security forces really wanted to keep track

Some of Pope's friends argue that Kelly was under MI5 surveillance, even within the Republic. and was seen with a woman who was misindentified as Pope in the resulting MI5 report. But the existence of the report is in doubt.

The NIO say no such report exists. Security sources deny it too. It would come as no surprise if Kelly were being watched but that is likely, if true, to be handled by the RUC Special Branch.

the ROC special Branch.

If there is no MIS report, the edifice on which the story was built crumbles. And it suggests that Paisley and Robinson became convinced of the truth of the story without every adequately varieting it. every adequately verifying it.

We can see how the Mail on Sunday has fallen foul of his wiles.

They wandered into something they didn't understand because they have no correspondent in Northern Ireland who would quickly have scotched the story But for political reasons, possibly, for old-fashioned journalistic reasons, certainly, they wanted the story to be true. It was too good to check with the people who really counted.

It is to be hoped they have learned some important lessons: Don't trust lan Paisl. v. Don't trust those so-called Mis contacts they are supposed to have spoken to. are supposed to nave spoken to.
Don't trust the Sunday World.
Don't trust those alleged republican contacts. Most of all, don't trust that you'll find truth easy to come by in Northern Ireland.

Kiss and tell lies

4page 13 the paper's agenda, and filed her own version which repeated all the allegations by attributing them to "a London newspaper". On a thin news day the spins by the spins of the spins with a trained by became the splash with a typically

lurid Post headline.
The Washington Times, also anti-Clinton; was delighted to report that the "affair" was "com-plicating Mr Mitchell's bid to broker a peace". The perilous implications of the story if true, were being spelled out.
But within a day it fell apart.

Pope issued an unequivocal state-ment: "There is categorically no ment: "There is categorizany truth in this story I have never even met Mr Kelly."

ELLY, having been shown on the doorstep. of his Belfast home newspaper picture of Pope, was widely quoted as saying: "If I had met her I would have remembered." A spokesman for Senator Mitchell said: "The allegations are totally

In a remarkably swift climb-In a remarkably swift climb-down, almost unprecedented in popular journalism, both the Mail on Sunday and Sunday World accepted that they had got it wrong. They agreed to pay Pope "substantial" damages (of 250,000 each) and apologised. Further damages from the other papers which repeated the story are only

a matter of time. The Mail on Sunday's apology, customarily published with a great deal less prominence than the libelious splash, was uncharacteristically fulsome: "The Mail on Sunday wishes to express its deep regret for the distress caused to Ms Pope in both her professional and personal capacity and has agreed to pay her substantial

damages and legal costs." It was, by any standards, a spec-tacular mistake. So where did the fault lie? There is little doubt of the Mail on Sunday's journalistic guilt, which it has readily admitted. But the paper's culpability has

to be seen in the context of North-ern Ireland's absurd politics of

paranola. It is a politics informed by suspicion and bad faith, misunderstanding and preju-dice, half-truths and downright lies. Denials, no matter how categoric, are never taken at face value. Truth is hard to divine. Dirty tricks are two-a-penny Layers of secrecy only make it worse. Most importantly, it shows how influential and meddlesome a figure Paisley remains. Look no fur-

ther for an eminence grise in this tale than a reverend gentleman who believes God is truth.

The first genuine fact that emerges is that the bogus story of Pope and Kelly has been

around for ages, at least as far back as mid-Octo ber. It was certainly doing the rounds among Paisley's DUP and Robert McCartney's splinter, the UK Union ists, in early November It is not known where DUP members themselves got the story — be it MI5 or some other

ource. On November 8, Paisley referred to it, albeit obliquely in the North-ern Ireland Forum. He alleged that one of Senator Mitchell's staff had been holding secret talks with the IRA Mitchell

State's office was not aware of any meetings and said that anyway, any meetings the independent

them." Those words would prove ominous for the Mail on Sunday. The story still refused to lie down because Paisley wouldn't let it. In the following weeks various correspondents from British papers, along with BBC journal-ists, heard of the supposed Pope-Kelly links. They are used to the rumour factory, checked it-out. and dismissed it. Crucially, they are also aware of Paisley's single-

chairman may have is a matter for

mindedness. They ignored hints and whispers from senior DUP members about "a juicy piece of scandal that'll blow Mitchell sky-high." A senior Official Unionist politician also told me that he and his col-

clothes — saying they were sheet said I had been "very sending them for testing -

Deace ... all part of the tangle of fear and suspicion that rules in Northern Ireland NEW YORK POST 350 The Mail Major warned by MIS of link between top IRA man and US peace negotiator too delighted to pick up the tasty morsel. Then, out of the

blue on Saturday November 30, the Mail on Sunday's Starn called him. He had realised that he and Jordan were workdenied it.

The story of this allegation was broadcast on Belfast's Downtown Radio that night Reporter Trevor Birney not only referred to Mitchell's danial but added: "A government spokesman said the Secretary of State's office was not aware of any badded that it the person who told him ing on the same story.
It is suggested that Stern picked up his story from two republican sources. That appears puzzling might just have believed them, he said, if the person who told him hadn't added that it all stemmed because the only people obviously hostile to Mitchell are the Unionists. Republicans, who trust Mitchell, are desperate to get into

from a DUP member having seen Pope and Kelly mentioned in an M15 report he had spotted on May-hew's desk in Stormont. This was so far-fetched, he told me that he knew then it couldn't be true. Again, most experienced broadsheet correspondents heard

about this claim and rightly scoffed at it. Paisley wasn't to be put off. One of his members raised the matter with the Government and received a written assurance that it was untrue. Still, Paisley continued talking to anyone who would lis-

ten, especially as his DUP party conference approached. Finally, the Sunday World reporter Hugh Jordan showed an interest. He is said to be extremely hostile to Sinn Fein and was only

How Josh Astor, a man with two famous fathers, became a tabloid playboy-junkie sensation

A star-crossed Astor



Playbox-Junkie ... Junkie-Aristo, blah, blah, blah, " mutters Josh Astor, struggling out of a battered White Ford Fusin.

It's the morning after the night before, which saw the official opening of the Cobden Club, London's newest media hangout in west London, and Astor's latest business venture. A slight figure in ripped jeans, geriatric leather jacket, pink pyjama-style shirt decorated by a cigarette burn and two large stains (one coffee, the other paint), it's impossible to reconcile him with his "society playboy" image and wild-child antics which kept the News of the World and the Sun in business for

In tow is Daisy Temple, a pretty flatmate drowning in a vast fisherman's jumper, and brought for protection against the press. Courtesy of squank good looks, money, a famous surname and famous father (in this case the two are not the same) Astor has had enough newspaper maulings to last him a lifetime. It's not hard to see why. Tossed out of Eton for amoking dope, jailed for possessing co-cains, you'd be pushed to invent a better tabloid target. And yet

Throw in the fact that he's not really the son of Michael Astor brought him up, but the illegiti-mate son of Joe "Gannex" Kagan a key and notorious member of Harold Wilson's entourage, and you have enough character and

plot for an entire series of novels by Jay McInerney. If they said I sodomised horses I'd laugh now," Astor continues, lighting the first of many Mari-boros. "I den't really care; well I did care at first, but after you've been called every name under the sun it's somehow rather liberat ing. It's a bit like those kids' games, where you put the right peg in the right slot. They find a slot, you're a randy vicar or a playboy junkie. Well I wasn't the former."

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We'll come back to the drugs in a minute, but above us two beautiful brass chandeliers are swaying gently, their motion caught in a huge mirror. Outside there's a teasing scent of alcohol, the cleaner is builing wildly with an industrial vacuum cleaner, and a beautiful waitress spirits in a tray peautinii waitress spirits in a tray
of black coffee in stark white cups.
Even though it's black, no sugar, I
feel as if I may soon develop a
hangover— it's that kind of club.
Kate Moss, Rifat Ozbek, the
Emilys Lloyd and Mortimer and

Will Self are on the membership committee. Last week Bryan Ferry, Patsy Kensif and Lord Snowdon turned up for the Vogue Christmas party here. Some 750 members paid their annual fee upfront before the doors were even opened. (Membership now costs around £350 and the list is tempo-

rarily closed.)
In a corner of the private dining room there's an ice-bucket with an expectant bottle from the previous evening. "Ah, Pinot Grigio," cries Astor, seizing the dripping wine and offering it round. The man-ager puts his head round the door to demand a chat about chefs, and a golden dog suddenly emerges from under the table and silently

Before I probe any further, I figure we should finish with his fear of the press. What was the worst

encounter?
"Well it was quite annoying outside court. One paper follows you around hassling you, telling you that you want to sell your story, you have a brief conversation tell-ing them to piss off and have a nice day. The following morning you read that that constitutes striking deals for your story.



Josh Astor . . . I don't really care; after you've been called every name under the sun it's liberating. You're a randy vicar or a playboy junkle. Well I wasn't the former.'

PHOTOGRAPH: EAMONN McCABE

Frankly, the suggestion that you'd take their money is more offensive than any combination of junkie child of vicar, randy playboy."

The court in question was Southwark Crown, where Astor was charged with possession of co-caine. He was 21, it was his first offence and he was sent down for

"I knew I was going to go to prison," he grins weakly. Can ha remember being sentenced? "I waited 10 hours, then the jury couldn't reach a verdict on whether they'd reached a verdict." Eventually they did. Guilty. "By the time I got the verdict I was relieved actually. By that stage I'd been sitting around being hassled, with the Sunday Mirror shouting 'Come on, we'll give you £5,000.'" Was he scared? "No, not at all. What's there to be scared of? You mean being confined?"

No. I say, thinking of Lord Brocket's recent experience at the hands of a gang armed with razors, scared of being beaten up? Why would they want to beat me with well, you must have been very different from the average prisoner. "Most of the violence is done by the officers. You just switch off really. It's very boring, you shut down your hrain, you just sit around and read books. Actually, it's quite relaxing. I was in a quite happy mood. I was only sentenced to three months and I

thought I'd get six." Was he wor-ried he might be raped? "No, I didn't see any of that, but it's to do with self-confidence isn't it? There were one or two people who had a few problems, but they were very very nervous and they advertised themselves as targets. It's very like school, except everyone's grown up so it's less vicious bechild of the state,' he laughs spikity. 'so really, when went to

cause everyone's got to get on with everyone else."

At the time he was accused of taking his famous surname to new lows. Do its associations weigh heavily? He refuses to say. What about his family, what do they think? "It worried my mother [the former fashion journalist Judy Innes] as to how it all affected ma, but it didn't really affect me."

Josh was adopted by Michael
Astor, the author and former Tory

MP when he was three. But a cus tody battle ensued and, though be was brought up at the Astor home in Oxford, he was technically a ward of the Official Solicitor.

"I was a child of the state," he was a count of the state," he laughs spikily, "So really, when I went to prison, I was just going home."

Though he knew the identity of his real father, he had no personal contact from the age of two until ho was 19.

In the intervening years, Ka-gan's fortunes rose and fell. His textile business flourished, earn-ing him a life peerage in Wilson's infamous 1976 Levender List, but he was always surrounded by foggy rumours of KGB connec-tions. Then in 1980, when Josh was 14, Kagan was charged with theft and false accounting and sent to jail for seven months.

"It was a farce," Astor recalls, when Kagan did eventually make contact. "I was lying in bed with a girlfriend when there was a knock on the door and this guy appeared. He was an executive at the Daily Mirror, I don't know what hold my father had on him, anyway, he dressed like John Major and spoke as if he'd come out of a Jane Aus-

ten novel.
"He said I have come on a mat-"He said 'I have come on a mat-ter of not inconsiderable delicacy'. I was like what? My girlfriend was there, and he kept looking at her and saying 'af some delicacy'. Finally I said: 'Well spit it out then.' So he said: T've got a mes-sage from your father'. "My girlfriend didn't know any-thing about my father, and asked

thing about my father, and asked if he usually communicated like this. The message was that he this. The message was that he wanted to meet me. Then the man from the Mirror went into this whole spiel about how he'd been adopted when he was a boy ... I kept saying. 'Yes, tell him I'll meet him, tell him yes.'"

Does he remember the first meeting? "It was strange because I didn't remember him at all. It was like meeting someone for the first.

like meeting someone for the first

dramatic, he wanted to give it a rather luminous ambience and I found all that a bit tiresome." Did he feel he resembled Kagani

"No, he was 75 by that time."
Did he like him, did he feel a connection? "Yes, I could see a connection, bits of him in me."
Which bits? "I can't ... well ... same sort of sense of humour."
Did he think it curious that they

both ended up doing short stretches in jail? "We never spoke about it. I did ask him about it once and he stonewalled." Why does he think Kagan called him? Was he motivated by guilt? "It's hard to say," Astor says tactfully. "He had three other children, they all knew about me so there was no awkwardness. I think he was slightly seeking after what was lost. Maybe he worried more about what he didn't have, than what he did."

Despite his image, I am sur-prised to find that Astor seems remarkably well-adjusted. He recounts the odder parts of his life with good humour and worries constantly that he might be upset-ting other people. I wonder if he was conscious of his absent father as he grew up? He shrugs: "No, one father goes, another comes." Realising how bald this sounds, he

adds quickly: "It's very common now. But that doesn't mean it isn't

traumatic. And there must have been more trauma when Josh was 13 and Michael Astor died. "I think it would have been quite awkward to have them both around at the same time, you know. It would have been a conflict of loyalites.
'I had another father, then he

died, then the other one made contact. They were serial, consecutive."

After a hesitant start, Astor, the

chief investor, looks oddly at home in the Cobden Club. A groovy combination of library (members are invited to contribute a copy of each book they've written), restaurant and vast bar with theatre space, its main attraction is that you can drink until 1.30am. But why a membership club? "Well, I think people like the idea of going somewhere where they don't have to arrange to meet someone, somewhere they can have a drink in a civilised atmosphere, and where they can pop in for half an hour if

they're in the area.
"It's familiarity. People don't speak to each other on tube trains, everyone's anonymous, the more people there are in a city, the more isolated you become."

And besides, he adds, heading off to a lecture for the degree in humanities he's now reading at London University: "I have a one point plan to save the country. Abolish the licensing laws.



I blame the absent fathers, myself

T WAS announced this week that the practice of paying sperm donors is to end. It is always worth listening to news stories about semen to hear what euphemisms are used in order to maintain the tone of British

When the ban on British beef began, newsreaders were given the task of informing us that ministers were trying to negotiate an exemption for three beef products: gelatine, tallow and semen. (Initially, viewers and listeners were left trying to imagine what kind of frightful continental dish would require those ingredients. Then it became apparent that the semen was for purposes of artificial insemination.)

After a few days, someone must have decided that the nation's mohave decided that the nation's mo-rality was at risk from the men-tion of generative fluid. So the term "by-product" was substi-tuted. This was clearly an unsatis-factory avoidance of the issue, so, as a compromise, news editors settled on the qualified term, "bull

semen". This ended confusion and | more than a little screness; but the distinguished it from cow semen. No lessons have been learned from that unhappy episode. On Tuesday night, we were treated to a BBC report about human "genetic material". I am sure that if the young students who provide the enetic material thought of it in those terms they would be unable

prison, l

was just

going home.

to accomplish the donation. The serious question in all this is whether it is right to be paid for being a sperm donor. The obvious answer is that if Richard Littlejohn gets paid for being what he is, then why shouldn't a student? But the relevant regulatory authority. Oftoss, decided it was unethical. It is not difficult to see why. The

analogy of blood-donation was mentioned. No one really knows how much infected blood was sold by junkles around the world before Aids became widespread, or how many of the world's poor have bled themselves dry so they can buy food for their children.

fertility problem. It also makes parenthood possible for women who are not heterosexual. Various absurd objections have been True, sperm is carefully screened, and donors who overdo it risk no

raised against lesbian mothertaint of money remains. All decent people fundamentally believe that there should be no place for profit in

The dilemma is that, without a financial incentive, most sperm donors won't bother. This is not so surprising. After all, drug companies won't just give medical sup-plies to the Health Service; they want money for them, and a lot more than is paid out to hard-up male students. It is preferable that, in time, more men are persuaded to give the gift of life freely; and that students are able to study. without having to do all manner of things to make ends meet. But in the short term, Britain needs sperm, and it seems that the only way to obtain it is to bung young

way is bound in it to bring young men a few quid.

To many people trying for a child, donated sperm is a very simple and effective answer to a

bood. Most of them involve the notion that children will be damaged by the experience. I should have thought there were many advantages to being a child with two

Michael Portillo's father fought against the fascists in the Spanish Civil War, and yet reared an evil little Tory

mums. For one thing, you'd be nicely turned out in the morning, although you might be late for school trying to run a gauntlet of palms and saliva as your mothers inflict rival partings on each side of your head.

The argument that the child will be disadvantaged by lacking "a

positive male role model" does not stand up to much scrutiny. Most children barely see their fathers. And even the most splendid role-model is no guarantee of anything. Michael Portillo's father fought against the fascists in the Spanish Civil War, and yet somehow managed to rear an evil little Tory

scimbag. Many people object to lesbians and unconventional families on the grounds that they are "unnatural". The same vague prejudice clouds the whole discussion of fertility treatment. Ever since the term "test-tube baby" was coined, people have fantasised about some sci-fi nightmare going on in our

hospitals. I think there are some who believe babies are actually being born in laboratories, even though this only happens in hospitals with

acute bed shortages. In truth, artificial insemination is usually a very cheap and simple procedure. And all medical treat-ment is unnatural. Any talk of nature in the context of health is

entirely misplaced, and is encouraged by herbal nitwits who seek to drag humanity back to pre-technological times when, if there was anything at all wrong with us, we just died.

But in the way the fertilisation regulators are discussing sperm there exists a grave and pious attidonors to take a more serious atti-tude to the task in hand. They suspect those students of being frivoous and irresponsible.

I know there is a movement to re-establish the notion that we are genetically predetermined, but I don't think the reciplents of students' semen should really fret that a child will have an over-developed need to store traffic cones in its room.

Readers may remember my out-lining the controversial conviction of Danny McNamee for alleged IRA activities. If you would like to send Danny a Christmas cord, write to him at HMP Full Sutton, Stamford Bridge, York, YO1 4PS.



White faces, red ribbons and true blue party tactics

Sunday: The Albert Hall bungry, so she asked for just a starter. He did the same and ordered a bottle of Puligny-Montra-Rhythm 'n' Blues Orchestra. Jools has this really annoying persona on television, but is a fantastically talented pianist, a Horowitz of boogle-woogle. By the end, of the night the whole hall was bopping gleefully in the aisles and boxes. However, the only black face I saw belonged to an uppersite. saw belonged to an usherette. The orchestra were all white, including the trombonist from Jamaica.
The singers were also white, and so was the entire audience. I looked carefully so I'm sure. It was most peculiar, like a country-and-western concert at which everyone wore business suits. I came to suspect that Jools's fans are musical anoraks, who would feel deeply threatened by the real thing.

MONDAY: At a Christmas party, I met a young woman who told me about how she had been pursued this year, unsuccessfully, by a well-to-do married man. He'd taken her to a show, then on to supper at the Groucho Club in Soho. Here, to prove that they're not all selfish media greedheads, they put £1 extra on every bill for charity. She hadn't been very

chet, a very expensive white Burgundy Later, while she was in the loo, he bought another, The final bill read: Food, 28.50; Drink, £96; Homeless £1.

TUESDAY: I hear that Dennis Turner, a whip, did a brilliant stand-up turn at a Labour Christ-mas dinner. "We're going to stop MPs bringing the party into disre-pute. We've just installed a micro-waye oven in the grains' office. wave oven in the whips' office. It seats six." Meanwhile, I was chat-ting to a Tory MP, a former Cabi-net minister, who says with absolute certainty — and a certain gloomy relish — that Labour will win the next election. "First, nobody who didn't vote Tory last time is going to this time. Second, in seats where the Liberals are third, their supporters will hap-pily vote Labour, which they didn't in 1992. We do not stand a

WEDNESDAY: The argument about TV violence and crime is dragged out yet again. I consulted my colleague Duncan Campbell, our crime correspondent, who points out that in 1869 it was estimated there were 20,000 hardened | cept that the red ribbons are to | rigging scandal, which has criminals in London alone; | show solidarity with victims who | knocked even David Willetts off roughly one in 100 of the popula tion. Lacking TV to blame for this, they picked on the end of transportation instead. The ultra-vio-

New Labour sees the voters, and even its own MPs, as statistics to be massaged and pushed around

lent Dick Turpin and his gang once held an old lady over burning coals to make her say where her savings were, and he'd never seen The Bill. US research suggests the real problem is not that TV causes crime, but that it frightens non-criminal people into thinking that the world outside is much more dangerous than it is.

THURSDAY: Dozens of letters have piled up about Aids ribbons, is.) And just to prove that what many helpful, some full of hysterical charges of bigotry. OK, I accepted the piled up about Aids ribbons, is.) And just to prove that what she says is right, along comes the great Personality of the Year vote-

show solidarity with victims who felt isolated and reviled. Yet figures just published show that, far from being persecuted, Aids vic-tims have triumphantly won the financial battle. The £51 million the Government spent on Aids research last year works out at 294,000 for everyone who died of the condition. The same statistic for the 150,000 cancer victims is less than £100. There is a real problem of priorities here, and pointing that out isn't bigory but common sense. Liberally-minded people must join in the debate, too, otherwise we leave it to the fundamentalist zealots and the truly intolerant Right.

FRIDAY: "Blair's just a marketing man with no ideas," said Spice Girl Geri (the one who ap-pears nude in the current Club magazine) during the girls' sem-inal interview on politics printed in today's Spectator. (The girls could singlehandedly restart the Young Conservatives, as young men flock back to join them for ping-pong, coffee mornings and a spot of "zizagag" — whatever that

the front pages. Now, I fully accept that Mr Blair had no idea that the young idiot who works in the party's media centre. Jules Hurry, had sent the smoking letter, trying to fix the Today vote on his behalf. (Though I'd be fasci-nated to learn how much Peter Mandelson knew.) But on the other hand. I'm equally certain that Ms Hurry wouldn't have written the letter if she didn't work every day in a culture of ma-nipulation. Like the marketing men Geri complains about, New Labour sees the voters, the media. and even its own MPs, not as people to be persuaded by force of argument, but as statistics social blocs, to be imeaded, massaged and pushed around. The Tories and pushed around. The Tories have had the same cynical attitude for decades now, but it's sad to see Labour following them. I can understand why they do it; four defeats have made them believe they must imitate the Tories to have any chance of winning. But now it looks certain the election is sewn up, couldn't we have a bit more philosophy and policy, and rather fewer focus groups, warm words and behind-thewarm words and behind-the-scenes fiddling?

have much more effect in improv-

I have cooked plenty of meals without meat which I felt were fine, but have no wish to be restricted to meatless meals. If

you want to be told which colours

to use when painting, good luck. Those who think of eating as "ap-

peasing their belly" aren't ideal for meals of any kind.

DIDN'T anyone ever tell you that

poverty, deprivation and the abuse of animals are linked, and if you want me to spell it out to you i will: read this slowly and let it sink in G-R-E-E-D.

I didn't suggest that you were attacking people on income sup-port, I was trying to illustrate the

lack of choice the poorest mem-bers of our society have when it comes to food. They are forced to

eat crap and if they are to eat less but better meat, where is the money to come from? Where do

they buy this meat even if they

had the money? And, bow do they get to wherever it is to be bought? I don't think Formum & Mason has branches on working-class housing estates, do you?

So, the health arguments I "trotted out" are bogus? Try telling that to the 11 people who have died of Ecoll and the other hundred

sick people. Aren't you aware of the frightening amount of (pre-dominantly young) people who have died from CJD? The Govern-ment has finally admitted that there is a link between infected

cattle and the human equivalent. Perhaps they forgot to tell you. You suggest that pressure from

vegetarians will have an effect in improving things. Why should it be left to us when you acknowl-

edge that there is a great problem? Why can't we all join hands

together on this and fight it

There have been many great

struggles over the centuries: the

abolition of slavery, the suffrage

movement, the emancipation of

black South Africans - the list is

I do know that people who have

supported these movements have

been scorned. The suffering and

abuse of animals (consider

endless and continuing.

together?

Dear Shaun,

ing matters.

Love, Shaun Hill



SEUROPE the debate of the century or isn't it? The Times keeps saying it is, so I turned eagerly to its pages yesterday to discover what had transpired on the second day of the Com-mons two-day debate. As Bluebottle used to say in The Goon Show: not a sausage. But then Malcolm Rifkind and Robin Cook are hardly a match for Mel B. Victoria, Mel C. Emma and Geri — the Spice Girls — some of whom have big breasts, and one of whom has a tattoo. This political story, in which the girls revealed they were Thatcherites at heart but, even so, backed John Major, beat the poor old

Commons by 165 lines to nil.

The success of this stunt may have a further undesirable consequence. It will further inflate the swollen head of Simon Sebag Montefiore, who wrote the Spectator piece on which it was based. It follows the mov-ing tribute to Teabag as the only journalist to get into the trial of Nick Scott, which appeared in the Atticus slot in the Sunday Times — under the byline of Simon Sebag Monteflore. This space, of course, is usually filled by Tacky. He is said to be rest-ing, but Smallweed suspects this is part of a plot by the Sunday Times to confound all those readers who previously thought that you couldn't sink

thought that you couldn't sink lower than Tacky.
While we're in this area, had anyone previously heard of Thomas Blaikie, who wrote the Spectator's narky review of Amanda Craig's A Vicious Circle—the novel that got toned down after David Sexton, the may's fiction roviewer, had obmag's fiction reviewer, had objected that he was portrayed in it? No details are given of Blaikle, though the piece does confess "I knew Miss Craig as a schoolgirl." (Presumably she was the schoolgirl. not he?)

OR YEARS now, Smallweed's life has been plagued by doubt over why John Selwyn Gummer ceased to be Selwyn, But now we have an authoritative answer. The Daily Mail's Answers to Correspon dents column (a rip-off of Notes & Queries in the Guardian. though even that was not entirely original) carried a letter asking this question. There were several replies, but one stood out from the rest. This was from Gummer himself, a man who probably knows as much as anyone about how this change came about. So here is the revelation we've all been waiting for. "I dropped Selwyn from my name" Gummer confides "be-

e it was convenient to do

so." Good of you, guy, we're

most grateful. ND THEN there is David Willetts, wined and dined at the Connaught, as yesterday's Guardian Diary revealed, by Bruce Anderson and Alan Watkins of the Spectator at a cost of around £170 per head. In this week's issue, the two journalists give a langous-tine-by-langoustine account of the grub and the booze (amazingly, one bottle of wine cost them only £55). Watkins has yet to pronounce on the dissembling, though he took a for-giving view of the memo in a recent independent on Sunday. But Thursday's Times con-tained an eloquent tribute by Anderson, portraying Willetts as a man traduced by pygmies. These Spectator chaps really

know how to look after you.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH'S obsession with the actress Liz Hurley has reached a point where psychologists need to be sent for. Last Saturday they ran a feature on the latest Versace launch picking out Hurley as one who was there. On Tuesday — under the heading "Why, why, why, Elizabeth"
— they had to confess that the
lady's appearance in the US TV
mini-series Samson and Delilah
had "failed to bring the house down". (On the contrary—when you read the critics, it was clearly crashing around her head). Still, at least it gave them a chance to use her picture. On the following day a feature by Christopher Howse (with pic-ture of Hurley) asked why this story hadn't worked on the screen. Suggesting a more origi-nal subject — the British Samson, a publican known as Top-ham, he asked what future roles Elizabeth had on her books. As I've noted before, whoever is behind this obsession is also deter-mined to call her Elizabeth. True, on: vi ine caption-write. Called her Liz, but I understand

lar s

HOTOCOPIERS blamed by Heseltine — newspaper headline.

A photocopier writes: I wish to protest on behalf of myself and my colleagues against this entirely uncalled-for attack by a senior government minister on a loyal, hardworking and uncomplaining group of govern-ment servants. His remarks were — as machines like me often say — "out of order". In-deed, they would have been roundly condemned before now but for a problem with paper jams. Does this minister really suppose that government in this day and age could function without our services? I am sorry, but you will understand in the circumstances I can't bring myself to say any more. I seem to be clean out of toner.

Flesh and the devil



Eleven dead from E.Coli, not to mention BSE. Who'd eat meat? No one should, it's cruel, says actress Margi Clarke. Oh lighten up, chef Shaun Hill retorts. Organic meat is humane and tastier than veggy stodge

giving up meat are numerous, though the building of a more compassionate world is the foundation of my vegetarianism. Deregulation of the farming industry has taken away much-needed safety controls and good practice — copying the attitude displayed everywhere gold rush. Animals bear the brunt of our greed — all for reasons of taste, even though we know that taste can be simulated by nonanimal products. BSE, E.coli, salmonella are only the beginning of the list of animal diseases, including leukaemia, cancers, TB, that are waiting, rather like a stack of

planes to land at Heathrow. It wasn't until I reached adulthood that I began to question the need to eat meat. My own light on the road to Damascus was a story that my sister, who once worked at-processing plant on the beef and gravy dinner line, once | Margi Clarke

Dear Mr Beefeater, told me. She saw a piece of meat with a large tumour in it and was told by the supervisor not to throw it away. Once it's covered in gravy, the supervisor said, the old-age pensioners won't know what it is and it will give them something extra to suck on.
How could I live with myself

stroking me dog, petting me cat, then eating me cow? We are arro-gant as humans in the way we think everything on this planet belongs to us.

eater, but the industry that treats animals with casual sadism. The ecological argument has more than shown the evidence of "false economy" - clearing of rain foresta and soil erosion, not counting the cost of feeding animals pro-teins which could feed humans in the first place.

As we go into the 21st century the physical and spiritual rewards for vegetarianism are vast, for us and for animals. So take care. Mr Beefeater, 'cos we'd like you to come with us, too.



Dear Margi,

YOUR reasons for turning vegetarian do you credit but do not stand up to any real scrutiny. There are disgraceful practices in the meat industry and people collude in the ill-treatment of animals by turn-ing a blind eye to the realities of

battery farming.

But vegetarianism is not the only alternative, nor is it the most effective in forcing change in the areas that trouble you. Decently-reared, decently-fed and humanely-dispatched meat is available if you take the trouble to

It costs a little more and is unlikely to come in easy-to-cook packages like chicken nuggets or predigested ple fillings. But it is there: free-range pork, organi-cally-fed chicken and grass-fed beef, all free of hormone and growth enhancer. Buy it and sup-port those behind it, so that people at the grimmer end of the trade are made to follow suit.

What of the alternative? Vegetables are sprayed with all sorts of chemicals, fruit is irradiated so that it can withstand lazy handwithout looking rotten, and soya protein and tomato are now liable to have been genetically engineered for purposes I know not. The only valid reason for vege-tarianism is a philosophical one, that you do not want animals slaughtered in order to eat a more interesting diet. I cannot argue with that - my problem lies in the moral high ground which those avoiding meat want to occupy. And the sort of grub offered by way of substitute.

Most purely vegetarian meals that I have eaten tend to be the gastronomic equivalent of a hair shirt — brown, bland stodge. I shirt — brown, bland stodge. I veg at Buck House. think, but I suspect that pressure wonder if this is part of vegetarl. Not all vegetarian food is from those who do eat meat will

anism's ascetic appeal? So my advice this Christmas is: tuck into some crisp roast goose and feel good that it had a decent life, and that by eating it there will be other geese bred and fed for next year. If you want, have lentils with it as well.

Love. Shaun HIII

The Merchant House Ludlow

Dear Mr Beefeater.

LOATHE the thought of killing innocent animals who have never done us any harm just to appease my belly and my tongue. The con-cept of simply spending more on buying "organically" reared ani-mals is, at best, naive,

Most of the poor in this country living on housing estates don't even have decent supermarkets, let alone the money to shop around. They are forced to buy cheap, nasty food; you don't have much choice when you're trying to survive on £49.50 income support. Ask a greengrocer in Liver-pool, where I live, for half a pound of mange-tout and he'll thi you're giving him the come-on. think

Your proposal for us to force change by shopping elsewhere is noble, and I can see that you're obviously thinking about the poor. Why can't you extend that com-passion to animals - surely the poorest of us all?

Your point about vegetables being sprayed is, again, wide of the mark. I agree that it goes on and I find it reprehensible, but the only living things to be harmed by this are us and we should unite to get the law changed. Again it is only the poor who are targeted; I bet they don't dish up this kind of

"brown stodge". I can't believe that you, a chef, can say that. Have you never cooked a meal without meat? If you were a painter and I commissioned you to do a painting without the colour blue, would you say "No. I'm unable to paint without blue"? I sat the same food now as I always have, simply without the

As for "taking the high moral ground" I've never been evangeli cal about vegetarianism. It's up to individuals to make up their own mind up about these issues.

Dear Margi,

you must couple the fight against world poverty and inner-city de-privation with vegetarlanism. The two are obviously linked in your mind more than mine.

It is eccentric to interpret a suggestion that one should eat less, but better, meat as an attack on those on income support. What is your alternative? Have you asked those on income support if they wish to become vegetarians? I am glad that you have arrived at the point which is central to our at the point winth is central to out difference of opinion — that is the slaughter of animals for food — and have dispensed with all the bogus health arguments. Surely this is a matter of personal feeling. The availability of mange-touts

where you live isn't relevant.
You are passionately opposed to
the idea of chickens and sheep for
food. I am OK with that, but have strong feelings about the treat-ment of these creatures while they are alive. We have more in com-mon on animal welfare than you

crates) at the hands of heartless businessmen are, for me, equally important and go hand-in-hand. Love, Margi Clarke PS: Where do you get your veal

Dear Margi,

Love, Margi Clarke

IT FASCINATES me that you feel

MENTIONED that my main problem with vegetarians is the high moral tone they often adopt. And, as a cook, I have trouble with the food eaten by such paragons, rather than the principle of not eating meat. You have alluded to the rain forests, the future of the planet, the abolition of slavery and the emancipation of South Africa as similar struggles. This is nonsense. It is particularly vegetarian nonsense, because it is pompous and self-righteous.

The bad news is that avoiding

meat does not make you a better person nor does it, in itself, im-prove the world. Those who remember that well-known devout regetarian, Adolf Hitler, will put you right on that one.

Your cause would be more attractive if concepts like a jolly vegetarian didn't seem such a contradiction in terms. The way to change things need not be through humourless people and joyless food. Vegetables and vegetarian dishes can have far better tastes than are be dreamed of by those who cook and eat for solemn prin-ciple. So lighten up, Margi dear, drink a bottle of wine and put salt in your food. The world may seem a better place. Love, Shaun Hill

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Doonesbury











John Ezard and Graham Bound on the meeting of two brothers from the Falklands who joined opposing sides out of conviction as the conflict ended

Outcast of the bitter islands

land Islands, towards a fateful separation. Deep in the most in-tense conversation of their lives, they set off from a house in Callaghan Road, where the first pioneers in 1843 built tin shanties in which poorer families still lived 139 years later. They walked along Davis Street.

past the sometimes shell-battered, nouses of a terminally declining colony. On the corner of Philomel Hill, named, in the 19th century, after a Royal Navy ship which was in turn named after a distant for a long, final talk.

'We had a deeper, soul-to-soul, than any two brothers can have had," Terry Betts said. They parted at peace, but close to tears. Then Terry walked back to comfort their mother and father. Alec Betts walked down the steep hill — to the public jetty. And there he sailed with the defeated Argentine on first proper meeting for 14 years, unofficial British-Argentine con-

NE day in mid- invasion fleet to live in the June, 1982 two country which had just occupied

deepest family tragedy of the 1982 conflict. "Our parents went to hell and back," said Terry. Alec was hardly ever spoken of in the house. He was the only Falkland islander who had gone over to the enemy. It was partly because he had fallen in love with an Argen-tine girl called Santina; but also because he was a Falklands nationalist, savagely distillusioned with British rule. After emigrating, he became convinced that Argentina had a good case for sovereignty, a rare view for an islander, which he has stuck to with Falklands doggedness. In the years that followed the

brothers met once, in New York, in 1987. But that was across the bitterest divide. Terry, by then a councillor, gave evidence for the Falklands case to the United Nations committee on decolonisation. Alec. as an independent witness highly prized by Argentina, gave evidence against

Aires. This was prompted by grief Alec never saw after 1982. It was a warm, if shadowed, reunion. Apart from their separation, both proud of, their subsequent lives. But the contrast in their fortunes

ried to Santina, with three children, and earns £416 a month as Terry, 46, must earn around 10 times that. He is joint owner of JBG, one of the most dynamic local companies formed to exploit

revolution" generated by revenue from fishery licences.

is immense. Alec, now 49, is mar-

His company has a suite in Atlantic House on Philomel Hill, an ultra-modern building close to the site of the old Globe Store. The current Penguin News, the islands newspaper, pictures the new hi-tech Norwegian freezer factory ship in which JGB has just bought a share estimated at £1.25 million. Terry hopes his next step will be into the burgeoning

oil exploration business. As a former councillor, he met

vehemently. Alec was asked in an interview after the meeting:

say that they are wrong." Yet it is a measure of a slight softening of attitudes in the 1990s that both agree that the post-1962 ban on Argentines setting foot in the Falklands should be lifted in the cause of long-term regional stability. This is an unpopular view (as yet) that is being strongly argued by a vocal minority. "If it isn't relaxed, we in the islands are

in danger of puncturing our own football," Terry said.

He was talking politically. But the topic of footballs evoked more down-to-earth memories. These burst out when the interviewer, a younger fellow-islander, asked if the childhood of the brothers had

been happy.

Terry: We were living in a colonial situation, don't forget. Alec and I, and many Falkland islanders, were second-class citizens. We didn't have rights. The Falk-lands were, by and large, owned, run and controlled by absentee landlords, so money wasn't about. The hest that we could hope for at Christmas was a football.

mean by childhood. Neither Terry or I had a childhood as an English child of 11 to 16 would. I began work as a peat boy when I was nine years old. I had to fill peat buckets at midday or in the evening and chop firewood to light the fire the next day. This was for two shillings (10p) a week or one and six (7½p) or something. I be-came a fully-paid employee the day I was 14 years old. The foot-ball Terry spoke about — I used to put him in goal and take abots from the penalty area. That really sums up our childhood. Terry: That bitterness is abso-

lutely common ground.

Alec: It makes me extremely happy that that sort of situation in the islands no longer exists, and that islands scholars can now reach university level in the UK, of opportunities in my time were totally unthought about. I can say that in those 34 years that I lived in the Falklands, England did ab-solutely nothing for the islanders. Terry: Everybody is earning much higher wages than they did



most people are homeowners, own their own cars. Alec and I were two of those who were pretty close to the breadline in the Falklands of the 1960s. Nobody lives in pov-

Alec — after listening to this account of prosperity — was asked in the interview if he regretted said he had decided in 1982 that his future was "on the Argentine wrong, well, that's my problem."

highly favoured by conditions which had developed since democis suffering from economic rigours imposed by the International

Monetary Fund. Were those rigours affecting his family? "Yes," he said, "Our life-style has been drastically changed within the last two and a half years because of the internal economic situation." So wouldn't he have done better to have stayed

"No," he said, "I became con-scious that the Argentines, whose claim we were quick to dismiss as being totally unfounded, have a better case than we were led to believe ... What happened is that in 1933 [when Britain repossessed the islands from Argentina), there was a great injustice done to the Argentina government. We should pursue justice by recognis-ing that what England did then was totally unlawful. To a certain extent, we Falkland islanders are to blame for the 1982 conflict".

Alec pinned this blame on the

between Britain and Argentina. Terry cut in. "I think Alec is

speaking absolute rubbish! What really is the issue is that Palkland islanders have been ilving there for 163 years. The islands are for, and I think really should be for, the islanders. I would like to see the islands and Islanders have some international recognition and status — but never under the flag of Argen-tina."

prosperity on the islands now. But one major problem lay in a Falklands law which bans all holders racy replaced dictatorship in 1983. of Argentine documents from But 90 per cent of the population entry. "This is a little outdated.." Terry wholeheartedly agreed but, he stressed, "not because of the family connection". It should be done in the interests of the whole South Atjantic.

As the meeting ended, Alec was reminded that he had spoken throughout of the Falklands as home. "Well," he said, "Anybody born in the islands who has left and lived outside, whether he's in Argentina, in Germany — or at the North Pole — will still speak about the Falklands as home.

After the unofficial conference. and Terry and two other Falklands delegates went "home". There they repeated their arguments for a strictly conditional lifting of the visitors' ban, a move Argentina badly wants; in Pen-guin News this week, this brought them a barrage of flak. But the issue — like the bond between the brothers - is a story with, as yet,

Today's marching orders

John Pilger

reports on the continuing Liverpool dock strike which makes its presence felt in a London march today

march through London today. After 14 months, the dockers' dispute is now longer than the miners' strike of 1984-85 and one of the most tenacious in British labour history. Until recently, it was also one of the least known. But now the dockers' unfashionable struggle to reclaim almost 500 jobs may become a touchpaper for something their union and New Labour have

their union and New Labour nave done their best to contain.

The dockers were sacked en masse by the Mersey Docks And Harbour Company, which has con-trolled the port of Liverpool since it was privatised from a public trust. With the Thatcher govern-ment's abolition in 1989 of the National Dock Labour Scheme, the company demanded that dockers, many in their fifties, worked shifts of up to 15 hours and, on their days off, waited by their phones to be summoned back to work. Configuration frontation was inevitable. Although the company denies it. the dockers believe they were set a trap, and that casualisation was the real issue.

On September 25 last year, they refused to cross a picket line at the port, which included sons and nephews, in a dispute over over-

time. Within 24 hours of their sacking, the jobs were advertised. When they tried to return to work a week later, they found the port gates locked. They have since rejected all offers of redundancy. "What matters," said Jimmy Campbell—who had 40 years on the docks and would have benefited from a pay-off — "is jobs, not just for us, but jobs for the young ones coming on."

Their union, the Transport and General Workers, has provided hardship money and office facilities, but has refused to make the dispute official. Bill Morris, the ers' wives, who were prevented from speaking replied, "Don't die,

just support us."
Although he has been invited, Morris will not be marching with the dockers today. As the dispute has endured, so it has called into question the role of the unions set up to protect vulnerable workers. This has been a striking feature of a sustained public response to my report on the dockers in Guardian Weekend three weeks ago. Morris refused to be interviewed for this, leaving his spokesman to claim that he was "legally prevented" from speaking because the dispute

was unofficial. I was advised to put my ques-tions in writing. This I did in a letter to Morris on October 25. I asked him how he intended to hon-our his pledge to go "that extra mile" for the dockers. I received no reply. Last week Morris turned down a request to sign a Guardian advertisement supporting the

Since the Guardian piece appeared, the dockers have been of-fered support reminiscent of the



Award-winner Graham McMillan . . . No celebrations. If

her dividends to them; a village in Devon is collecting for them: an artist displaying his work in Oxford is giving them the proceeds; pensioners and schoolchildren have offered their support and time. Graham McMillan, a Merseyaide

port worker for 51 years, has writ-ten to the TGWU calling off a presentation ceremony next week at which he was to receive the union's silver medal. "It's not a time to celebrate," he said. "We're going back to the conditions of the late forties and early fifties. If the dockers lose, we will all go under. The union has to fight." Last week the dockers' committee presented hir McMillan with their own

award "for standing with us". What has belped to elevate the dockers' campaign from its Goliath position is the extraordinary international response, which is

expected to culminate in a "world strike" of shipping headed for or sailing from Liverpool on January

Having forced the huge Atlantic Container Line to suspend its op-erations in Liverpool last July, the dockers now have the support of the American west coast long-shoremen's union, the ILWU, several European unions and the pow-erful All Japan Dockers' Union. Up until now the International Transport Federation, the maritime unions' world body, has supported the dockers only "within legal bounds" Datas.

legal bounds". But the ITF may be shedding its caution as key members privately favour an unprecedented shutdown of major world ports that would express, according to one of them, "an interna-tional labour solidarity like no other struggle in recent maritime

In a scathing open letter to the FIF, one of its senior American in-spectors, Jack Heyman, wrote that a victory for the Liverpool dockers, "would offer an alternative to the defeatist strategy (of the British trade union establishment) that has so far lost every port save Liverpool, much to the dismay of maritime workers around the globe ... This aristocracy of labour, while bemoaning draconian Thatcherite anti-labour laws — which their darling Tony Blair has vowed to uphold if elected! actually use them as an excuse for

inaction". Heyman, who resigned in Octo ber, reminded the ITF that it "was launched in 1896, when British seamen sailing into strikebound ports in Holland joined striking Dutch dockers. They didn't fax their union for official authorisation or check to verify if it was legal ... They just did it."

It is too early to judge if the dockers campaign signals the be-ginning of a wider resistance to the anti-union onslaughts of the 1980s and the obedience of the union bureaucracies. Certainly, "extremists" can no longer be used to dismiss men and their families who are prepared to suffer harduniversal application. By their action, the dockers bring into sharp focus the iniquities of casual and part-time working which today impoverish not only the docks but the service industries, manufacturing, even the profes-sions and the media.

They also demonstrate that a mall number of unofficial, isolated workers can ignite an internationalism that is said to have morning in the fiercest blizzard for 70 years," said Bobby Morton, one of four Liverpool dockers who set up a picket at the port of Newark, New Jersey just as a container ship had docked from Liverpool. "We didn't know what to expect. But when we told the longshoreman coming to work what it was all about, they turned their cars around. We were dancing on the picket line, even though we hadn't

Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park today proceeds to a rally at Conway Hall,

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SHOOTING STARS

RISING: ROALD DAHL

Up ... Dahl finds fame and fortune as a writer of flamboya writer of flamboy-antly subversive children's fiction. In 1990, he dies.

Up . . . Last night at the Albert Hall, Dahl's take on Jack & The Beanstalk was 'semi-staged' by the Royal Phil-harmonic Orchestra, with Joanna Lumiey and Danny DeVito. And away . . . Next week, Dahl's Matilda, about an ESP-wielding gamine, hits the cinema screens.

FALLING: BUZZ LIGHTYEAR

Going . . . Buzz, the byte-sized star of Toy Story, wins the hearts of kiddles and special-effects buffs, scoring a victory for stellar-explorers

everywhere.
Going . . . So Buzz the toy is now top of Santa's list in households across the land. Only trouble is Buzz has sold out

Gone . . . Disney announced yes-terday that a 20,000-strong shipment of Buzzes is on its way, due to arrive on standate 28.12.96. Britain's tots are doomed to wait 'to infinity and beyond' for their animated astral pal. Santa's reputation may

Art forms of the century

We used to expect a literal reflection of reality. Today, great fictions are perpetrated in its name. In the first of a new series, Liz Jobey reveals how photography is reinventing itself

snapshot in your wallet, the poster at the bus stop, the picture in your paper, the image on your screen, the scan of your not-yet-born baby, the fruit 'n' nuts on your cereal packet, the model in your magazine, the print on the gallery wall? All these things and more should be the answer. But isn't it, really all these things and less? There are too many photographs. And every one now can be broken down into digital units, transmitted down the phone line and reconstituted on a computer screen thousands of miles away Even the Mona Lisa has been digitised, if the stories are to be believed, so that she can reappear

images in the world in his personal global library; some idea that he could recreate the universe by twid-dling a few knobs and making everything look different. Photography is undergoing an identity crisis similar to the one

representational painting went through at the end of the 19th cen-tury, when the advance of photography both threatened it and released it from its duties to report accurately. Photography has had a similar reaction, too: to turn in on

HAT is a photograph at the end of screen in Bill Gates's living room.
the century: the snapshot in your his drive to own the rights to all the wallet, the poster at limages in the world in his personal ment of the future. The old certainties about what a photograph is have been eroded. If used to be a simple thing a record of a certain place, at a certain time; a memory to hold in your hand. Soon even the family snapshot will be

plugged straight into telly With a global print and broadcast media clamouring for images every day photographs would seem to have no shortage of outlets. But the desire for stories with broad-based similar reaction, too: to turn in on itself, examine its component parts, and look for new forms and outlets.

It may not quite have the theoretics of Cubism, but digital photography,

Even front-page pictures in the quality press are given over more and more to iconic portraits, or photo-montages. Its news-value usurped by television, its emotional power dulled, photographic report-ing is in decline, as readers turn to the Hollywood profile or the shop-ping page. And advertising — the most sophisticated area of photography today - has destroyed the last vestiges of photographic truth and produced a society of cynical visual consumers, making concep-

tualists of us all.

No wonder the problems that undermine traditional photography — appropriation and manipulation, parody and repetition, visual tropes — are the very qualification. ties in which post-modernism has put its faith. Ever since Andy Warhol recyled them into art, the role of photographs has been under review. Warhol chose the photos for his multiples for their symbolic. rather than narrative power. Car crashes, electric chairs, movie stars were the push-button route to the big emotions: fata, death, love. After Warhol made advertising art, art declared open season on popular culture. Warhol's films, banal parodies which gave ordinary people their very own Hollywood moment. proved that anybody could be a superstar and vice versa. Warhol was the point at which celebrities went into the mainstream and the ordinary moved into art.

Relieved of narrative duties, photography explored its conceptual potential. One of the basic theories of conceptual art was that an art form might comment on itself. Take the American artist Cindy Sher-man. She acted out run-of-the-mill B-movie female roles in her famous series of Untitled Film Stills, pointing up the parody by photographing them in the style of a 1950s black and white publicity shot.

From the 1970s on — as the history of photography began to be accepted as a legitimate subject of study as prices for prints rose— the movement Warhol started gained pace. While commercial photographers were learning new skills -- how to use a video camera, how to run a website, how to convert their pictures into digital packages to sell to the new monster breed of digital libraries — photog-raphy, the process, found sanctuary in the cathedrals of contemporary

art.

The assimilation of photography into fine art has over the past decades forced a change in the way photography is taught, looked at, sold, bought, and — irony of ironies — reproduced. One of the most telling pieces of evidence of photography's new role is the simulation of rarity, even of uniqueness, by restricting its ability to reproduce. If you visit the Turner Prize exhibition at the Tate among the exhibition at the Tate, among the short-listed works are Craigie Horsfield's black-and-white photo-graphic prints. Several metres high, their surfaces have a depth and luminosity quite unlike the flatness of a normal printed pic-ture. To the minimal captions at their side is added the paradoxical label: "Unique Photograph". This is the one and only print before the negative is destroyed. Horsfield says the prints take weeks to do, he gets fifthy and covered in chemi-cals, he finds it physically difficult to repeat them, and rarely wants to. But in art galleries all over Europe and America photographic prints are being limited to editions of six, or three, or only one, and prices are being raised accordingly. This represents photography's most proactive bid yet for the values of painting to be made into an irre-placeable work of art. Horsfield is adamant about not being a photog-rapher and not having his pictures shown alongside traditional photographic work. He is not alone. The foreground of contemporary art has been settled by a new group of

artist-photographers. With the awk-wardness of a genre still looking they come to photography via an for a definition, their work is usu-ally referred to the state of the s ally referred to as photo-based fine

Their importance to the art mar-ket is reflected in the way their work is promoted by art galleries; by the absorption of photographic departments into those of fine art; by auction house selling pho-tographs as contemporary art; and by the way the art institutions have relaxed their rules of acquisition after previously relegating photog-raphy to the status of applied art.

Throughout Europe and America, large-scale photographic works are sharing the walls of art institutions with master paintings. Size is just one way they distinguish them-selves from traditional photographic prints. The other - and here's the rub — is perception.
These works demand the level of
attention accorded to painting,
partly because of size, partly
because of the way they are presented within an art-gallery environment, partly because of the stated intention of the artists. They do not rely on the old photographic laws of time, or place, or familiarity. When we look at a painting, though we glance at the date and its title that is not what decides our feelings about the picture. It is pos-sible to be entranced by Degos's After the Bath without worrying about who the woman is, or where,

or when. We develop a relationship

they come to photography via an art-historical route that goes through Duchamp to Warhol, through Conceptualism and Post-Modernism, rather than the photohistorical route that links Steightz to Cartier-Bresson and Brandt to McCullin, For them, film, video, photography and installation are all means of extending their visual language. Not surprising, then, that Douglas Gordon, this year's winner of the Turner Prize, should borrow Psycho and stretch it out to last the length of an entire day; or that Jeff Wall, one of the most highly acclaimed photo-artists, should use the values of film production and a group of actors to restage his own contemporary version of Hokusai's painting, A Sudden Gust of Wind and then photograph it, compounding the levels of reference by mounting the resulting transparencies on a large wall-hung lightbox. illuminated from within by electric, rather than painterly light. There is a lot of aesthetic and intellectual game-playing involved; but then painting has long been fond of that.

In 1995 the Tate bought A Sudden Gust of Wind (After Hokusai) for \$85,000, one of a number of recent acquisitions made from the small but influential group of artists. based in Europe, the US and Canada, all of whom use photography in their work. When the Tate showed its new acquisitions in Liverpool last year, most of them were





with the image because it exists in its own time and conveys its particular sensuality and visual truths to us. Of course, not the least part of our admiration is wonder that the human hand and eye can produce such a thing. But if your view is that a camera is just another tool. like brush and paint, then it is

something of this relationship that photo-based fine art demands. Traditional photographers how-ever, find these perceptual distinc-tions hard to take. "All photography is conceptual art," said Peter Galassi, head of the Museum of Modern Art's Department of Pho-tography. "The differences cur-rently made between photography and so-called photo-based fine art are both intellectually and artisti-cally untenable. Part of the reason for it is that it's useful to the market

to maintain high prices for work by artists using photography."
When I asked Mark Haworth-Booth, curator of photographs at the Victoria & Albert museum, what the difference was between the photography and photo-based fine art, he said quickly "About three zeroes". Galleries in Europe and America have been achieving six-figure sums -- even more in the case of Cindy Sherman whose Untitied Film Stills were bought with seven other works by the Museum of Modern Art at the beginning of the year for a sum reported to be around \$1 million. In the 1980s, as prices for contemporary art soared. commercial galleries took photo-based works as a means of providing a cheaper alternative, around the \$10,000 mark. It hasn't taken long, however, for them to achieve much higher prices. As far as the artists are con- Jaruary 26.

photography, recycling photos into art there, including works by Andreas Gursky, Thomas Struth. Thomas Ruff and Bernd and Hilla Becher from Germany; Japanese-born Hiroshi Sugimoto from the USA; Paul Graham and Cralgie Horsfield

From top ... Craigie Horsfield's

massive prints at the Tate- his work is a reaction against the idea that photography is not

art: Cindy Sherman's Untitled Film Still #54. one of a series

Warhol stuck two fingers up at traditional notions of

that sold for more than \$1 million; and Andy Warhol Self-Portrait, 1965-67.

from Britain. But the idea of photography as art's poor relation has never been completely destroyed. Kodak's old slogan, "You press the button, we do the rest," has made the public suspicious of claims for a photograph graph as a work of art. Irritation at the limited understanding of what photography can be is why Craigle Horsfield wants to take his work outside its boundaries. He wants to change the public response, to slow it down. And he's built the sugges-Taken in the 1970s when he lived in Poland, they were not printed up until after 1988 and consequently hear two dots. bear two dates. He explained: "I kept bundles of small prints that could fit within one hand, I stored them in old cigar boxes. Sometimes I looked at them every day some-times after 20 years. You see the thing that matters, the thing photography may be, is not the past, this story about death, this 'has been ...' It is the present. This person, here, in this place now in this it is the trace of the world and the space between you and I."

A trace of the world might be the one claim photography can still make for itself at the end of the

20th century The Turner Prize exhibition, including Douglas Gordon's work and Craigle Horsfield's prints, is at the Tate Gollery until January 12. The exhibition of American Photography, 1890-1965, is at the Victoria & Albert Musaum until





pavarotti the best is yet to the official story



cliff richard



carreras, cole & domingo ta celebration of Christmas



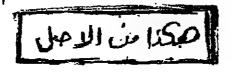
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Spend £25' now and we'll give you £25 worth of money off vouchers

to spend after Christmas. It's our way of saying Merry Christmas and giving you an even happier New Year.









Short and to the point

F YOU were of a mind, an irredeemably disturbed mind, you could have watched more than 17 hours of Coronation Street this week. The orgy began on Sunday with Granada Plus's two and a quarter hour omnibus of the previous week's episodes drawn from the seventies, followed by four half hour instalments each weekday. Each day there was an episode at 8am, 12 noon, 6pm and 9pm on the channel — cunningly staggered at intervals so the true addict didn't suffer

withdrawal symptoms.
This week Len took Elsle to
Gatsby's, Eddie tried to obtain a cart for Stan and Hilda, and Ernest applied for a new job. "Who are these guys?" younger readers may be asking themselves. Tread softly rash youth, for you step on my memories. I can still remember the early seventies upset when Fred Gee started pulling pints at the Rover's: not a week since has gone by without some other disconcerting novelty.

The orgy comes to a climax tonight with a three-hour special, Christmas On The Street, slx festive episodes from the soap's 30-year history. In between you could have caught up with Granada's current Coronation Street output, four Instalments on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. For serious enthusiasts, this

is all just light training for the main event — Christmas Day on Granada Plus. Then there'll be an 8am episode, but from 10am to 6.30pm it will be uninterrupted Coronation Street. There will be two episodes later in the evening.

You lucky people. This is all mad, but, perversely, what's really annoying is that there isn't

quite enough of the Street on our screens. In some television regions there is no longer an omnibus of the week's Coronation Street from 1996. What kind of folly is this? Why do Street enthusiasts have to watch in real time or tape four separate episodes each week, while followers of Brookside and EastEnders are well served with omnibuses? It's unfair.

In this crazy world (we haven't even considered how much time you could spend watching Brookside and EastEnders, past and present each week, let alone what happens to your life if you are obsessed with two or more soap operas), what chance for Springhill, one of Sky's few commissioned programmes? It's only on once a week for half an hour, which makes it easy to miss, and easier still not to become addicted. True, Sky did broadcast the first five episodes in an omnibus last episodes in an omnibus last

episodes in an omnibus last month to try to ensnare viewers, but, surely, brevity is the soul of its appeal.

Watching Springhill is also, unusually for British soaps, a rather private experience: it's more difficult to find people to discuss the show with than is the case with terrestrial soaps. But this is the future of the case with terrestrial soaps. But this is the future of television viewing: the days when a workplace would teem with people who had seen the same thing on television last night is dwindling; common culture broadcasting with all its culturally homogenising effects is becoming less common, thank Hilda.

Springhill is intriguing

because it does things most soaps would not dare. Spooky incidental music heightens the mood, or more daringly, dampens it. In this week's episode, for instance, there was a fight between father and son, but wistful incidental synthesiser chords undercut the drama. This was astute since the main storyline, about revelations that the Freemans father was a bigamist, was told in flashback — a device hardly ever used in traditional scaps so the music supplied timely emotional distance.

Springhill started with Sue Freeman applying make up to tense pizzicato. What the music signified was not clear until the bigamy revelation was made apparent; why she was getting made up was not disclosed until the end when she turned up to be jilted at the register office by boyfriend Jamie. It was so selfconsciously formal and cool as to be — singularly, among scaps — mannered. It may be unhealthy, but I feel an

Lyn Gardner salutes Forced Entertainment, the creators of the first pop theatre



fear the tick of a bomb All your heir in a fuse You ask me for a light To blow away these blues Run me a bath, then plug me in I'm like a TV learning to swim

— From Goodnight on Buby Bird's
album Ugly Beautiful (1996)

A: Howli Howl! Wake it up poor dead

B: Wake it up and think all hard of this. If you don't to get up who will shout and sing songs at the stupid moon? A: Who will live to in then your idiot

B: Who will being its walls and blood A: Oh we are drunk and dependable angels and we can to raise our friends from out the dead. --- From Perced Entertalmment's 200% And

the bits inside your head that you don't know what to do with.

transform them into a make-believe so real it gets you where it hurts. In the company's latest piece, the tacky and tender Showtime, a dying man covered in tinned spaghetti is

unbearably sad at the same time.
In another sequence, a woman
wearing a pantomime dog's head
with floopy ears and liquid brown
eyes meticulously plans her suicide. "Close your eyes, close your
fucking eyes and keep them closed.
You shouldn't be watching this."

Reality bites

The discovery

HEY come from the same place: Steve Jones, aka chart-topping Indie singer-songwriter Baby Bird, and Forced Entertainment, the theatre ensemble who in 11 years of existence have defied all expectations of what can happen on stage.

what can happen on stage.

If you want to be geographical, you can call that place Sheffield, where Forced Entertainment's writer/director Tim Etchells and a group of drama graduates settled. In those days Sheffield was a dying industrial city, where you could live cheaply on the dole and even record in the local, council-run studios. Jarvis Cocker was there plugging Jarvis Cocker was there plugging away for 15 years before he hit the big time; Jones was there too, briefly forming the performance duo Dogs In Honey, recording 400 songs on a tiny four-track recorder. It was here that Forced Entertain-ment began to create a body of bril-

ment began to create a body of bril-liant, uneven work unparalleled in British performance history. But Baby Bird and Forced Enter-tainment share a different geogra-phy, too, a place captured in the corner of your eye where the TV is always on and someone is dying on screen or having violent sax. It is a placed piled high with Tesco car-rier bases and where there is never rier bags and where there is never Elvis Presley but lots of Elvis Presley impersonators. It is a flickering world of menacing thugs and drunken angels wearing cardboard crowns. It is a place littered with all

Jones turns them into songs, his daffy surreal lyrics harnessed to painfully sweet melodies; Forced Entertainment take the bits and

insistently interrogated while two people dressed as trees squabble behind him. It is like watching Mastermind where the contestant is bleeding to death; funny and unbearably sad at the same time.

But even if we close them, the images keep rolling on the vast TV screens inside our heads. Insistent, relentless, we live in a culture that we cannot switch off.

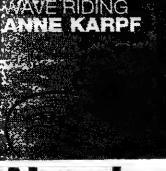
we cannot switch off.
In the eighties we watched Forced Entertainment do one show after another and we were dazed and confused. We did not know what to make of these melancholy, poetic performances. "The whole performance is totally out of control... there is little to enjoy here and much to regret," declared the Independent of 200% And Bloody Thirsty. The words came back to haunt five years later when they provided the end lines of Marina And Lee, inspired by the Lee Harvey Oswald mythology.

And Lee, inspired by the Lee Har-vey Oswald mythology.

The more tolerant among us sat around eating frizzy salad at the ICA and bemoaned the fact that we didn't have the vocabulary to analyse the work, that we didn't speak the same language. And in retrospect, it turns out that we weren't listening very hard anyway. Etchells knows our language inside out, the shambles on stage is inside out, the shambles on stage is precisely choreographed. You could not write the brilliant 10-minute monologue delivered by a man to whom a ticking bomb is strapped at the beginning of Showtime unless you were acutely aware of all the conventions of traditional theatre,

But while Forced Entertainment are arguably masters of theatre's traditional argot, it is clear that they know a completely different language too. If they had all been born five years later these cold war bables would probably have made pop videos, not theatre. But back in 1984 it was cheaper to make theatre. You didn't need any equipment. So instead they took all the language of late-night TV movies, graffiri and overheard conversations on the bus and assembled the fragments into a panicky roller-coaster ride through urban Britain.

In doing so they have created the first pop theatre: throwaway, dis-posable and childlike. It is a theatre in which meaning is stumbled on almost by accident and in which identity is fractured and every carefully honed image has a personal message for the listener that you can replay through the headphones of your mind alone in your bedroom later Like the things you see on TV, it is more real than real life. At the ICA, London, until December 21. Main photograph by Henrietta Butler.



Ahead bya nose

HE TROUBLE with a radio Cyrano De Bergerac is, to put it bluntly, that you can't see his hooter. In much the same way as letters, radio conceals his monstrous protuberance, so how can it persuade us of the pain caused by his appearance, or highlight the difference between how he looks and sounds?

Or so I thought, before hearing the first episode of Hilary Norrish's lively Radio 4 Classic Serial production of Rostand's play. In fact radio is an ideal medium for it, sparing us the fake, pasted-on absurd Pinocchio proboscis that still seems to sprout on most stage and screen Cyranos. In Anthony Burgess's muscular verse translation, Alex Norton makes a swashbuckling Cyrano; his cataloguing of positive uses for a large nose was a tour-de-force, and should be pinned to the doorposts of plastic surgeons

Lenny Henry played bovine stimulating play Like That (Radio 4). An uneducated chap made redundant by the army, he revisits his white childhood from the in Anne Caulfield's childhood friend Mark (Linus Roache), now a successful music journalist, after an absence of 12 years, only to find that Mark has fixed himself up with a phony past, replete with black stepfather, in place of the drear reality a young single parent mother with a tendency to leave him home alone. Caulfield used the play to scrutinise the complexity of identity beyond the slogans and stereotypes, particularly the allure of black culture for those whites who act as surrogate blacks. An unusual and interesting

theme, well played and handled with confidence. Ferdinand Dennis's tour round Harlem for Something
to Write Home About (Radio 4)
challenged other black
stereotypes. When Dennis put it to his American guide that the absence of white faces in Harlem betokened its symbolic apartness from the

(3) (3)

dominant America, he was told no, blacks had fought hard to resist white gentrification of their handsome brownstones, the most valuable piece of upcoming real estate in New York today. This was a programme full of quiet observation; in an age of grab 'em presentation, its sobriety of style was attractive.

Radio 4 is currently brimming with letters from America. In his six-part United States Of Anger, about disillusioned Americans, Gavin Raler, the BBC TV's punchy chief North America correspondent, often sounds as if he's tying up a fourminute TV news package, and implicitly underestimates the similar extent of British distillusion — perhaps he's been away from Britain too long. Last week, for example, he talked about the American workers' obsessive fear of being laid off, as if unaware of an equally powerful fear stalking their British counterparts

Where but New York would you find a funniest rabbi competition? We heard two contenders — one who shouldn't give up the synagogue job — in the first programme of a new threeprogramme or a new three-part series The New York Stand-up Comedy Show (Radio 4) tracking American humour from the 1950s punchline jokesters of the Borscht Belt resort hotels via observational monologists to the present crop of improvisers. Comedy, declared Phyllis Diller, is a hostile act, for which the essential qualification is a botched childhood.

Where but **New York** would you find a funniest rabbi competition?

Programme one produced several amusing dysfunctional aggressors, most with fine Brooklyn accents.

Dear Diary, once the standard Radio 4 anthology of dead writers, is now an actual diary of sorts: in the age of the video diary, radio has added sound effects. Michael Schmidt's description of the consequences of the IRA bomb on his small Manchester Carcanet Press was freighted with feeling. but also precise and illominating.

A final question: can the wonderful I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue (Radio 4) continue to flourish without willie Rushton's boisterous

Garth Cartwright on a triumphant homecoming for the Street Preachers

Manic attack

The resurrection

O WELSH band has ever achieved anything like the success of the Manic Street Preachers, but the road that took them there has been more tortuous than they could have ever imag-med when they arrived on the

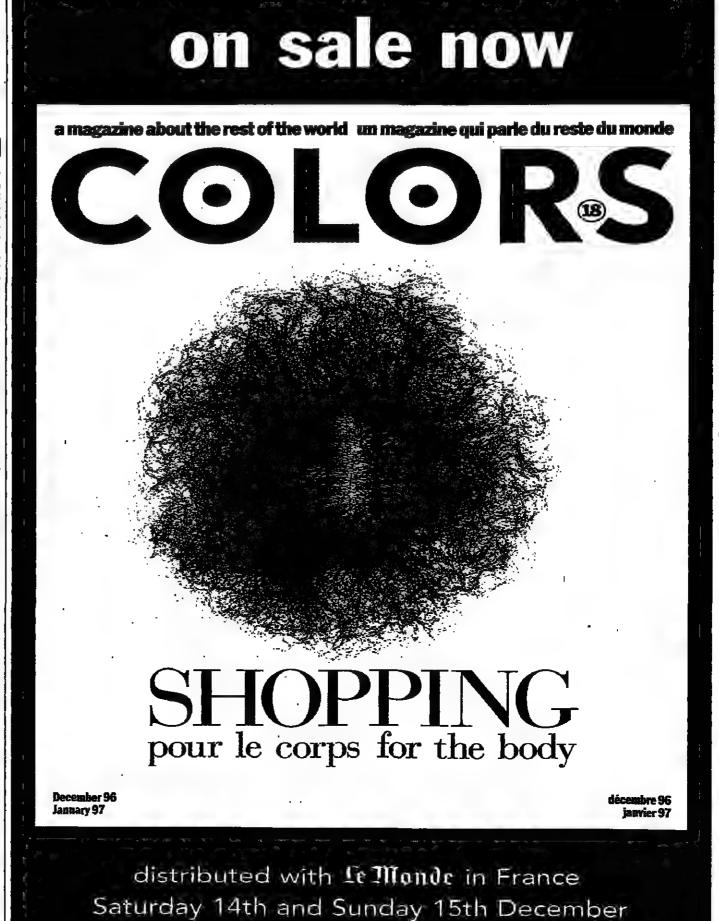
scene in 1990. Back then, they wore the emblems of Arts students, their situationist slogans and existen-tial dilemmas backed by spiky guitar riffs. As dance music swept Britain, their rock posturing and aggression made them look hopelessly dated. It took the disappear lessiy dated. It took the disappearance of guitarist Richey Edwards in 1995 to relaunch them on the nation's pop consciousness. Here in Cardiff, headlining in front of a 7,000-strong audience, they celebrated their resurrection in style. Igniting the audience with video images of the Poll Tax and miners' strike demonstrations, the Manics combined class-war slogans with locomotive powered rock. Once more skilled in delivering soundbites than songs, they are now the loudest, proudest purveyors of Welsh soul since Tom Jones.

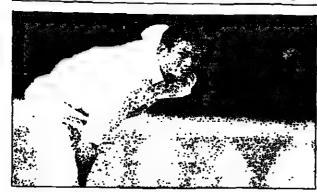
Vocalist James Bradfield is an mcompromising singer, handling even the most carping lyric as if it were a commandment. He delivered Suicide Is Painless with a tenderness he would once have avoided, and when singing old chestnuts such as Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head, he revealed a sentimen-tality one would have never guessed

With Edwards gone, the band are stripped of their androgynous focal point. Bassist Nicky Wire is all lanky cool to Bradfield's stocky fervour, while drummer Sean Moore hides behind his hair and kicks the beat along. Curiously for a band that generates intense musical heat, the Manics possess little sexual magnetism. But then, with lyrics that deal with genocide and self-loathing, perhaps this should not be surprising. Though a stubborn anger remains at the root of their music, a new vulnerability is evident. The lyrical eulogy Enola / Alone carried a sense of longing across the arena. The bond between the Manics

and their fans has always been strong, And here, as the band punched out the epic, jukebox pop of A Design For Life, Cardiff's youth pressed forward, surfing on distortion and excitement.

At a time when most of their con-temporaries are busy being ironi-cally cool, the Manics' sound and fury signifies, finally, feeling. It may be naive to imagine rock music can be much more than a noisy diver-sion in 1996, yet in Cardiff the Manic Street Preachers' gig was a a statement of community.





Liam the Hampshire all-rounder

THE decision was Liam Botham's own and probably the right one. writes David Foot. His progress at Hampshire last summer was modest — if artificially boosted on his debut by the tradition of the family — rather than spectacular in the way some had unreasonably expected it to

Botham, less cocky than his father at this age and probably more level-headed, took a hard look at his progress and came to the conclusion that he was going to be a better rugby centre than a cricket all-rounder.

Botham will have no inhibiting sporting icon hovering over him at West Harriepool, having done his best to

pretend that there was no psychological barrier to cross whenever he put on his flannels. There is no time for hanging around in the commercial

world of rugby union these days. He had to make up his mind and he decided he had the physique, the heart and the talent for the game; cricket would always have been a

Cricket

Nick Varley on the end of a fairytale as the legend's son opts for the oval ball

Botham junior settles for rugby union career

HE 'like father, like | first-class debut and five | son' fairytale is not to | wickets against Middlesex, I | be after all. Liam | have always had a slight pref-Botham, son of Ian, has decided to pursue a career in rugby union rather than cricket.
Only months after a first-

class cricket debut for Hampshire in which he took five wickets he signed a contract yesterday to play rugby for West Hartlepool.

The 19-year-old, who also scored on his senior rugby debut in October, said: "I have enjoyed both cricket and rugby since my school days and perhaps everyone assumed I would concentrate on cricket. While It wasn't an easy decision to make and I will always remember my

have always had a slight preference for rugby. "I've discussed the position

with not only my father, who has never pushed me to follow either route and has ex-pressed his support whatever decided, but also my professional advisers. Watched by Mark Ring,

West Hartlepool's director of rugby, Botham, a centre, signed a three-year contract and said his immediate aim was to improve his fitness. This is my second year at West and, with the game go-ing professional, Mark and I had to decide whether I was good enough to play at this level," Botham said.

"Mark believes I am worth this contract and I'm determined to prove him right. I have informed Hampshire of my decision and they have wished me well."

His career with the county, with whom he signed a two-year contract earlier this year, may not be over, however. Tim Tremlett, the direc tor of cricket and coaching said: "We are retaining his registration forms and hope he will play for us at some stage on a limited basis. The rugby season is becoming more and more like the foot ball season, with less and less time off, but we have dis-cussed the possibility that he can play for us during the close season."

back, cast doubt on this. "It is virtually impossible to com bine summer and winter sports at a professional level these days," he said. Botham's cricket debut

could have been scripted for his father. Initially not ed, he arrived late at the game but took five for 67 against Middlesex, including the wicket of Mike Gatting But he took only three more wickets in the last three games of the season to finish with an average of 33.50 from

score of 30, also against



Liam the West Hartlepool centre

WHILE admitting he had chosen rugby partly because he no linger wished to see the words "son of" behind his name in newspaper reports. Liam Botham stressed that in his own judgment he has a better future as a rugby player than as a cricketer, writes Tim Wellock.
On the evidence of his recent debut for West Hartiepool he is probably right, although he is not currently among

the top three centres at the club. In a one-sided match against an under-strength Hawick the most striking feature of Botham's performance was his excellent handling skills. He timed his passes to per-fection and was instrumental in setting up several of the

game's tries. He is quick rather than blisteringly fast, strong in the Stries.

His batting was less impressive: from three limings he giving the overall impression that he would instinctively

managed 31 runs with a top do the right thing.
score of 30, also against All Botham lacks, as a lean six-footer, is a little of you

Tour match: Queensland v England A

Hollioake in mood for last-day antics

Andy Wilson finds a few bright sparks offsetting the boredom in Brisbane

remembered by Ian Greig, the former urrey captain, "as a bit of a tearaway" when he first arrived at The Oval Now the marketing executive for the Queensland Rugby League, Greig yesterday saw the new, improved Hollioake captain-ing England A for the last time on a tour which has gone so well that the young allrounder must have joined the abbreviated list of possible successors to Mike Atherton.

Yet it was the larrikin still within Hollioake which allowed England to bow out on a suitably upbeat note, even though they had the wrong end of a tedious draw with Queensland. He led the team in a football-style salute to a non-existent crowd at the start of play, gave Anthony McGrath the chance to take his first first-class wicket and joined his team-mates in an impromptu picnic lunch on the outfield during the first drinks' break.

"It's been the most difficult game I've had to captain, purely for motivation," said Hollicake. "Every single day has been incredibly nondescript and we knew after the second day that it was almost certain to be a draw. So I wasn't going to be the strict disciplinarian, especially at

the end of a long tour." But Hollioake ensured there was enough serious cricket to prevent the tour ending in farce. Craig White took the second new ball early in the day and returned after lunch to secure careerbest figures of six for 66.

The Yorkshire all-rounder

DAM HOLLIOAKE is | wickets at 16 apiece, in addition to hitting important halfcenturies against South Australia and Victoria. White is staying in Australia for his 27th birthday on Monday but will return to England as a genuine contender for next summer's Ashes series.

fine tour although, captaincy aside, his best performances have been in the one-day games, averaging little more than 20 in the longer matches. He, too, is staying on in Australia, but not for long; an operation is pending on a left ankle injury, which has been affecting his bowling for two years, and he wants to be fit to push for a Texaco Trophy place against Australia.

Dean Headley, another of the tour's successes, also faces hip surgery during the next month but there are no such worries for Mark Butcher who was determined to enjoy himself on the final day. He bowled a useful spell of lively medium pace before lunch and then cruised to 47 from 36 balls when England launched their meaning

second innings. Stuart Law set two men deep for the hook but Butcher flailed away regardless; send-ing one ball between the fielders for six, the next fine for four. He passed 600 runs for the tour, finishing with an av-erage of over 50 in the firstclass games, but fell short of his eighth half-century in 14 innings when he slipped and dislodged a bail. Of the other batsmen,

McGrath and Michael Vaughan have struggled in the first-class games and topped the first-class tour failed again yesterday. Jason bowling averages with 11 Gallian was simply happy to

by injury while, of the other two Lancastrians, Warren Hegg has been more consis-tent than Glen Chapple.

Owais Shah faded a little after a blistering start to the tour but like Andrew Harris he will have benefited from the experience as he heads for home and his mock A-levels. Peter Such, despite missing all three first-class games, and Mark Esiham, still troubled by a fractured index finger, have, predictably, let no one down.

Hollicake and the tour manager Mike Gatting have been eager to stress the team ethic, that "everyone has chipped in". But the last word is reserved for Ashley Glies, not only as the tour's leading wicket-taker with 22 but also for the animated nature of his high-five with Barry Richards, the legendary South African batsman and outgoing Queensland chairman, on being named Man of the Match.

DIGLAID At First Butcher 72: Croovey QUEENSLAND

Total (120.2 overs) 22. 278, 277, 228.
Full of wiskests exect 232, 278, 277, 228.
Souritags Headley 9-1-30-0; Chappis 23-7-59-1; Ealinam 5-2-16-1; Gilles 16-4-33-0; White 23.2-5-60-6. Hoslooke 12-7-29-1; Geillen 14-3-30-0; Vauphar 2-0-9-0; McGrath 4-0-6-1; Butcher

MACLAND A: Second Insides
M A Butcher hit wicker b Prestwidge
M P Vaughan c Nietwer b Multer 18
J E R Gallian not but 12
C White not out 11
Extres (b1, lb4, nb2) 7

Umpires: P D Parker and J F Torpey.



Larrikin to leader . . . Adam Hollioake has emerged on tour as a captain of distinction

PHOTOGRAPH: SHALIN BOTTERILL

Cheer for England as Symonds carries the drinks at MCG

Australia A - significantly minus Gloucestershire's Andrew Symonds -- had an easy victory over the increas-ingly hapless West Indies; the Australian Cricket

ADOUBLE lift for England | Academy — the one well on the trot after Ian Harvey | be could still change his mind one-day matches in Australia. |— ambushed Pakistan by 13 | an unbeaten 132, Harvey's | by the TCCB and his county runs as they warmed up for tomorrow's World Series match against Australia in Adelaide.

At the MCG, West Indies suffered their seventh defeat

only four wickets. man, which in theory means | preference to Allan Lamb.

an unbeaten 132, Harvey's by the TCCB and his county straight six off Kenny Benjamin taking a strong A side to Englishman next summer. the required 218 for the loss of Sri Lanka have named the only four wickets.

Symonds was only 12th Bruce Yardley as coach in

Rugby League Holgate in Nines limbo

Pauxi Fitzpatriek

named in Andy Gregory's souad for next month's Super League World Nines tournament in Townsville, Australia, despite last week's agreement that no more than one player from each club would make

the trip.
Gregory, the Salford coach who is also Great Britain's coach for the trip, has selected Wigan's Andy Farrell and included Holgate, who last week agreed a move from Workington to Central Park.

However Mark Newton, a Rugby League spokesman. "Technically Holgate is player and they hold his reu istration with the League." Wigan, who owe Salford

£10,000 as part of a deal which took Terry O'Connor to Cen-tral Park in 1994, claim the cheque is in the post. Once Salford have received it, said Paul Harrison, Wigan's pubic relations officer. Holgate becomes a Wigan player. "Great Britain will then have to review the squad on the basis that only one player from each club should be

Willie Morganson, a 34year-old centre from North Queensland Cowboys, has joined Sheffield Eagles Ian Sherratt, the 31-year-old Oldham Bears prop, is moving to £30,000.

WORLD NEWS SQUADE Forcell (Wigan capt). Sprame (Bradtord). Naylor (Satiord). Prome (Bradtord). Naylor (Satiord). Senter (Constrict). Senter (Satiord). Senter (Warrington). Marring (Leoti). Hotgate (Workington Town). Tellett (London).

Weekend fixtures | MATIONWIDE LEAGUE

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP romerrow Sunderland v Chelses (4.0) _

Bertiasti, Formagia v Germany.

EUROPEAN B-2-1 Creshier- Combinging

Group Fiver Cyprus v Sulgaria: Israel v

Luxembourg Grose Bights FYR Macedonia v Romanja.

FA VASEM Third research Brigg Tn v Tow

Law Tn, S Shricks v Beolington Tey, Loush

Ud v Whithy Tn, Durstan FB v Holber Old

Boys, Tetley Walker v Traithrd, Hallam v N

Ferritry Ud. Clusbourough Tn v Poulson Vc.

Cosett Alb v Namewich Tn; Vaushall GM v

Mossley; Geoling Tn v Durham C: Huddenall

Tn v Newcaster Tn; Woodridge Tn v Hol
shad Tn, Hinddey Ah v Slamford AFC,

Codby Tn v Cogenhoe Ltd. Specifing Udr v

Bridgmort Tn; Barking v Sulfnor Walden Tn;

Nerthmood v Hartine Tn; Hutter o Hear Pales

Stewarts & Lloyde v Southend Manor, Col
lier Roe & Remitord v Braintree Tn; Wisbech

Tn v Diss Tn, Comcord Regra v Greanwich

End Artice, Tn v Technon Tn; Wannoestiel

Ud v Chipperham Tn; Twerton Tn; Wannoestiel

Ud v Chipperham Tn; Twerton Tn v Pouce
haven & Telescombe, First Tower Udr v

Roading Tn; Burnism v Winistable Tn;

Herrie Bay v Saltzen Ud, Benstead Ah v

Touro C Thatcham Tn v Wimbourne Tn.

UNIBBOND LEAGUE: Premiser: Accring
ton Stanlov v Gutseley; Alfreton Tn v Col
wyn Bay; Barrow v Bushort; Blyth Sparlans

v Look Tn; Boston Udr v Buncour; Emley v

Chorley; Knowsley v Bishap Auckland,

Lancaster v Gambourough; Sparnymoor v

Marriers League; First Tower Udr v

Chorley; Knowsley v Brishap Auckland,

Lancaster v Harrogath Tn; Leigh v Mactock

Tn; Netherfold v Bradford PA, Warrington

Tn v Bordsden; Finaton v Atherton LR

Gretna v Harrogath Tn; Leigh v Mactock

Tn; Netherfold v Bradford PA, Warrington

Tn v Broyladen; Finaton v Atherton LR

Coldred Tn v Bordsord PA, Warrington

Tn v Bordsen v Hars Lenducy a Nove
port AFC, Saltsbury o Gravessend & N; Sud
bury Tn v McChyr; Worcaster C v Nume
ton Marriers Lenducy Tn, Fasher Ar Ldo v St

Leonards; Fleat Tn v Grantegar Tn; For
eat Green v Fareham Tn; Newport (toW) v

Wholy Tn; Tombridge Amples v Vata

Tn; Stourteridge v Evenham Utd, Sutton

Colffield Tn v Reddrich Utd. VS Rundy

Barringhant v West Brom perioned
Bolton v Ipswich
Bradford C v Reading pesiconed
Chariton v Port Vale
Norwich v C Palace
Oxford Utd v Sheff Utd

Luton v Crewe _____ Notts Co v Rotherham

Bristol C v Bristol Rvrs Third Division

Scientiforpe v Exeler
Torquey v Scarborough

MC35 LEAGUER Promiter Divisions Aylesbury v Yeading: Boreham Wood v St
Afbans; Bromley v Hendon. Dag & Red v
Oxford City; Grays v Sutton Utd; Harrow
Borough v Cherteey Tr; Hichir v Beshop's
Storfford; Kingstonian v Enfeled; Staines v
Dutwich; Yearvil v Heybridge. Plant Divtelews Besingstoke Tn v Leyton Pennant;
Berhtumsted Tn v Bogner Peges Tn; Convery Island v Aldershot Tn; Croydon v
Latridge; Maldomhead Utd v Winyseleafe;
Marlow v Chesham Utd; Molesey v Hampton; Thame Utd v Barron Rvrs, Toothing &
Mitcham Utd v Wann & Hersham, WoMingham Tn v Abingdon Tn; Worthing v
Bitlericay Tn, Second Ohrsteine Bedford
Tn v Hungarford Tn; Bracknell Tn v Hernel
Hempsted; Challont St Peder v Egham Tn;
Dorking v Cheshum; Wembley v Horsham,
Windson & Eben v Withem Tn; Wembley in
V Wars, Third Divisions Aveley v Kingobury Tn, Explored; Challont or Chesham,
Windson & Eben v Withem Tn; Wembley
Hin v Camberley Tn; Tring Tn v
Hornchurch, Westdestone v Chapton; Wingete & Finchley v Gosthall
N-W COUNTIES LEAGUE: Pract Deieles Blackgood Nrvs v Maine Rd, Cilliaroe v Atherton Col, Darwen v SI Hejern
Tn; Eashwood Hanley v Pantitts Klatgrove
Ath v Chadderton, Glossop NE v Burscough, Presson Cablos v Bootle: Salford C
v Fiossendole Utd.
PEDISTATION BRISINERY NORTHERN
LEAGUE: Para Divisions Billingham Syn
v Crook Tn, Chester Le Sercet v Seatem
RS, Cornert v Murton, Durham C v Yow
Law Tn; Whileigham v Szeddon.

NORTHERN CCUNTHES EAST LEAGUER
Promiter Divisions Denty Utd v Armshore

Premier Division: Denaby Utd v Armtharpe Welt; Glasshoughton Welt v Bolgor Tn, Halfield Main v Ashfeld Utd, Liversedge v Arnold Te; Pickering Tn v Maitby MV; Thackley v Selby Tn, Pontofract Cols v Cassot Tn.

TENMENTS SCOTTISH CUP First round Albion v Forfer

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Premier Division
Aberdeen v Motherwell —
Hibernian v Dundee Utd —
Kilmarnock v Hearts ——

Rangers v Duniermiine

Divisione Beckweil Lid v Chard Th: BristIngton v Bristol MF; Barnetaple Tn v
Westoury Und. Blumore v Bridgort Tranfington v Odd Down Ath Les Phalipse Cape
Pauliton Rivrs v Bishop Suton: Biderord v
Devizes The St. The St. Countries of Tottenham;
Chalasse v Billingham, L Orient v Tottenham;
Chalasse v Billingham, L Orient v Charlton
Ath: Norwich G v Arsenal: West Ham v
Southend Und. Seconde Colchester Lind v
Reading (12.0), Crystal Palace v
Wycombe, Luton Tn v Bristol Cyclore Lind
v Binghton; Southampton v Bristol Rivrs,
Swindon v Bournesouth, Tobarham v
Brentford, Wimbledon v Barnet.
FAS NATFORMAL LEAGUEE Premake: Dhessign Finn Harps v Cork City (7 30); Sigo
Rovers v St Patricks Ath (7.30). Toestorrown Bothemlans v Bray Windrs: Shameock
Rivrs v Derry C; UCD v Shelbourne.

Tothettow

Tomorrow PA WOMENT'S PREMIÉR LEAGUE Radosai Divisiona Araenai v Everton (2.0): Croydon v Southampton (2.0): Don-casgar v Tranmere Rura (2.0); Lucy Wentbley: Milwidii v likeston Tn (2.0)

Warningy: Minwan v nicesom in (20)

MATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE
Premier Divisions Boverley v Wigan St
Patricks (2:0): Egremont v Saddleworth
(2:0): Heworth v Dudge Hill (2:0): Lock
Lang v Woolston (2:0): Oldnam St Annes v
Langh Miners (2:0). First Askan v Outon
(2:0): Barrow Island v Wigan St Judes
(2:0): East Loeds v Millom (2:0): Eastmoor
v Walney Central (2:0): Leigh East v
Moldgreen (2:0). Thornhill v Blackbrock
(3:0). Seconds Feetherston's Amabour v
York Acorn (2:0): New Earswick v Redhill
(2:0): Normanion v Dewebury Moor (2:0):
Ovention v Shaw Gross (2:0).

Baskethafi

DESINGUESER LEAGUE: Themes Valley v Manchester (8.0); Worthing v Leicester (8.0), Temestroms Newcastlo v Derby (5.36), London Towers v Sheffield (7.15), 7-UP TEOCHY, Homel & Watturd v Play-boy TY (7.30), Tomorrows Birmingham v Hemél & Watturd (7.0).

ice Hockey

PREMIER LEAGUE Slough v Guildford (5.30): Tellard v Swindon (7.30). Tomost-rows Guildford v Swindon (5.0); Slough v Telford (6.30); Sollhull v Peterborough (7.0) (7 d)
MORITHERN PREMIER LEAGUE Duminies v Barbharn (7 30); Paleisy + Caminies v Fife (6.30), Temorrows Fife v Duminies (5.30); Murayleid v Blackburn (6.30); Whitey v Paleisy (6.30). Tomorrow

INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGIS Great Brigin v University of Manitoba (6.0. Breathern; SUPSHLEAGUE: Ayr v Newcasile (8.30)

SCOTTISK LEAGUE

Second Division Brechin v Queen of South

Dumburton v Hamilton

Livingston v Ayr

Stenhousemulr v Clyde bostooned

Third Division Albion v Rose County _____ P
East Stirling v Cowdenbeath
Forlar v Allos ______ oc

Levete (1.0).

SCOTTESH INDOOR LEAGUE (8.30, Sells SC. Perth).

RESCHALL LEAGUES A Sells Sc. Perth).

RESCHALL LEAGUES A Sells Sc. Perth).

RESCHALL LEAGUES A Sells Sells Sc. Perth).

RESCHALL RESCHALL RESCHALLE SELLS SE EAST RIDOOR LEAGUE (Aldenham Sch. Today 12.30; Tomorrow 8.30) Blueharts, Cheinstord, Fords, Old Loughtonsens, Spaiding, St Albana.

MEME'S CLUESS Aylesbury v WGC, Bedford v St Neots: Bridghorth v Bournville; Entertwild v Berfort Herriew v Hendort Herriend v Atmondsbury; Lydney v Carditt, Wednesbury v Chad Corbett; West Wits v Robinsons. Robinsons.

WORGEN'S REGIONAL LEAGUES East:
Combs C y WGC; Harleston v Bury St Ed;
Igswich v Bordeyheath; Sevencaka v
Ashtord
Souths City of Portsmouth v Duleich;
Horsham v Winchester; Southampton v
Hampsteed; Winchmore Hill v Tulse Hill;
Waching v Reading.

WOMEN'S CLUBS: BAC v Newport; Bedford v West Witney. Exeter v Yate; Glos C v West Bromwich; Old Loughtorians v Read-ing; Working v Woking. Tomesvews & Fagans v Rediand. BRITISH ATROSPACE ENGLISH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP: North (10.0, Startey Pk, Biscipped).

REPRESENTATIVE (2.0, Cirencester): England U-16 v West U-18

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

Dover v Northwich

Not on couppen Famborough v Stough;

Genebad v Bettr Hullia: v Managemen

Kestnesdord v Huyet. Micken minstern v Rebering: Rushden & D'monds.v Bromsprove;

Southpart v Altrinchan; Statybridge

Macsclesifiekt; Servenage v Teilord; Weiling

Rogby Union England v Argentina (Twickenham), BITERNATIONAL MATCH: Scotland v

England v Argantina (Twickenham),
Briterika Trould. MATCHE Scotland v
Italy (2.30, Murrayfield).
TOUR MATCHE Energing Wales v South
Africa A (2.30, Swansea).
Representative Matche Weish Principal
Africa A (2.30, Swansea).
Representative Matche Weish Principal
Ident's U21 v Natid U-21 (1.0, Swansea).
BOYAL ASS SUB- MATCHE Weish Principal
College (1.0, Twickenham),
Swallec Culty (2.30 unless stated): Friftreseate Abencari v Ystradgytidate; Bedwes
v Abertynere Buchneod v Hirwausu Cross
Keys v Tonyratali; Fellindel v Narberth;
Kithvelly v Carmarthen Culra: Llandovery
v Birchprove; Llantinsant v Dinas Powyer;
Maceste v Abertynere (1.5) fellindel v Narberth;
Kithvelly v Carmarthen Culra: Llandovery
v Birchprove; Llantinsant v Dinas Powyer;
V Birchprove; Llantinsant v Dinas Powyer;
V Birchprove; Lientinsant v Dinas Powyer;
V Birchprove; Lientinsant v Carmarthen
Ath, Rhymney v Ammenterd (2.0); South
Wales Police v Bonymeen; Whitland v
Bullin Weils,
BESURANCE CORPORATION LEAGUE
(2.30) First Divisions Biscrock College; Instonians v St Mary's College; Old Belvedere v Young Munster: Old Crescent v
Lameriment Coll v Certyowen, Second BirIsland Beclive Rangers v NIPC; DLS v
Lophin, Derry v Monisstowi; Malone v
Contast: Sunday's West v Sewries; UCC v
Highheld Wanderers v Greystones.
COUNITY C'Shept Souther Pool Cone
Countes v Control (2.10, Three Court),
Hampshire v Bertshire (2.15, Timber Court)
Hampshire v Bertshire (2.15, Timber Court)
Hampshire v Bertshire (2.15, Besings
Hampshire v Bertshire (2.30, Stouton),
Pool Twee Notis, Lines & Berty x Chesinire
(2.30, Redwirk): Warwickshire v Northumberland (Rugby), Pool Threes Reat Metlants v Lambanhow (2.70, Bodderd); Lambershire
(2.30, Redwirk): Warwickshire v Northumberland (Rugby), Pool Threes North Millands v Yorkshire (2.30, Stouton), Soutonical (2.30, Newsirie V Dirthmin (2.30, Stouton),
Staltorateric v Duriner (2.30, Stouton),
Staltorat

ARGLO-WELLEN CUP: Poel 28: Orrell v
Newport (2.0).

CLUBSS-Aspathia v Perrith (2.30): Bath v
Wakatisid (1.0): Stadford & Bingley v
Harrogais (2.16): Camberley v Basingstoke (2.30): Corstophine v Abordsen
GSFP (11.0); GHK v Kitmannock (11.0);
Grangemouth v Biggar (1.0), Haddington
v Duntermiline (1.10): Leads v Notingham;
London Irish v London Scottish (12.0):
North Ribblesdale v Whariadale (2.15):
Plymouth v Torquey (2.30): Preston Grasshoppers v Huti Iorilane (2.16); Reading v
Healey (2.15); Richmond v London Weish
(11.30); Sendel v Middlesbrough (2.15);
Shefffeld v Morley (2.30); Waterloo v Borcupinneth (2.30); Waterloo v Borcupinneth

Sport in brief

Sports Awards

William Hill last night suspended betting on the winner of this year's BBC Sports Personality of the Year award after a caller claiming to work for the BBC told them that Damon Hill had already gathered more votes than all the other contenders added together, with Steve Redgrave second. The BBC dismissed as "laughable" the notion of the

call being genuine. Snooker

Nigel Bond, the world No. 5, saw his 3-0 lead cut to 3-2 before he rallied to beat Mark Davis, ranked 50 places lower, 5-2 in the quarter-finals of the German Open at Osnabruck, writes Cline Everton. Bond nie O'Sullivan this evening. The other semi-final, between John Higgins and Alain Robidoux, starts this afternoon.

Hockey

Pakistan will play Nether-lands, the Olympic champi-ons, in the Champions' Tro-phy final at Chennai (the former Madras) tomorrow, writes Pat Rowley. The holders Germany beat Spain, the Olympic runners-up, 4-8 but Pakistan denied them a final place by beating India 3-2 in this round-robin event for the world's top six. Netherlands beat Pakistan 2-0 on the opening day and are unbeaten.

The former undisputed heavyweight champion Riddick Bowe faces a make-orbreak rematch at Atlantic City tonight with Andrew Golota, the 26-year-old Pole who battered him around the ring at New York's Madison Square Garden in July, only to be disqualified for repeated low blows. In the rioting that followed, 22 people were injured and 16 arrested.

Rugby Union U-21 RITERNATIONAL Scotland 41.

GOIT
COOLUM CLASSIC (Coolum, Aus):
Second-rested leaders (Aus Uniess stated): 136 R Pampling 89, 67, 137 G Chaimers 71, 86; 8 Appleby 89, 58 138 P Lonard 67, 71, 139 M Roberts 71, 68; W Grady 68, 73; S Leaseny 72, 67; M Long (KZ) 72, 57; A Peinter 71, 68, 149 E Bouth (KZ) 71, 69; D Disz 72, 68, 141 P Chepman 67, 74, 142 E King 68, 73; S Robinson 70, 72; C-Jones 70, 72; J Gooper 70, 72.

Basketball MBAs New York 80, Golden State 78; Hous-ton 115, Detroit 86; Milwaukee 100, Seattle 97; Utah 87, Phoenix 95, Pertiand 98, Van-couver 78; LA Clippers 97, San Antonio 94, Sacramento 83, Delias 88.

Chess Chess

Las Palmas Tousmanum Round
Former V Kreinrik (Rus) K. A Karpov (Rus)
K. G Kasparov (Rus) K. V Anand (Ind) K. V
Topalov (Bull) G. V Verachuk (Lien) I.
Stendingen Anand, Kasparov Zi. Karpov,
Kramnik, Ivanchuk 2. Topalov I.

Lastovital: Round elegat lenderus P Mithrakenth (Ind) Sk. J String (Ind) G. C McNeb
(Scot), Z. Rahman (Bangladesh), P Tripsey, V Kosty, L Ravi, J Gokhale, S Vijeyelaisthmi (Ind) Sk. J. Alaest A Kosten (Eng) S; J
Plasken (Eng) 4K.

Cricket

COLLEGE

ONE-DAY MATCHES: Mollocwines West indice 217-8 [50 overs, 6 Chanderpeul 72]. Australia A 218-4 (44.4 overs, i Harvey 67no, D Lohmann 68no). Australia A won by six wickets. Actahades Australia A won by six wickets. Actahades Australia Cricical Academy 248-5 (50 overs; M Dighton 62). Paidster 238 (48.5 overs; 2 Bahi 61. S Anvair 38, Smith 3-40, Poole 2-22). Australian Cricical Academy won by 13 runs.

SUPPLISPORT SERVES: Durham (day bro): Boland 133 and 66-2 Natis 198 (D Benkenstein 50, Williams 6-67, Millins 4-64), Kümiteerley (day one): Free Stain 284-7 (B Dipencar 50, L Williams 0.75. C Cravan 68no) v Griquatand west. Caspe Town (day one): Border 210 [M Boucher 71]. Western Province 97-6 (M milli 4-25). Johannessborg (day one). Transvasi 322-8 (D Laing 128, A Hall 60) v Eastern Province.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Swindon 6, Skough 2. NHL: Boston 4, New Jersey 7; Detroit 6, Chicago 2; Philadelphia 3, Hartord 2: Tampe Bay 2, Edmonton 2 (of); Los Angeles 1, Caigary 5. **Swimming**

CHAMPIONE TROPHY (Madras). Round-robbe Pakistan 3, India 2; Nethor-lands f, Australa 1. Netherlands and Paki-stan quality for final.

ice Hockey

Switzening

Buropean Short-Cousses C'Shupe
(Rostock): Phasis: Mane Som brandstreton 1, Plaskson (Swe) 27 75sec: 2, J
Kruppe (Ger) 22.77: 3, D Malch (Cz) 27 84.

Som beachstretoe: 1, M Stemblids (Pol)
25,03: 2, T Karlo (Cro) 25,14, 3, S Theleka
(Ger) 25,15: 100m freestyler, 1, Conran
(Ger) 48,90, 2, N Butacu (Rom) 49,96; 3 N
han (Ron) 48,56; 400m freestyler, 1, Conran
(Ger) 48,90, 2, N Butacu (Rom) 49,96; 3 N
han (Ron) 48,56; 400m freestyler, 1, E
Brembilla (N) 3,45,52, 2, B Abrard (Fr),
A,46, 10, 3, D Maganes (Gr) 3,62,32 Coope
buttlerfly 1, C Bromer (Ger) 15,704; 2, T
Rupprath (Ger) 157,30; 3s., D Abrard (Fr),
A Andermail (Switz) 1, 18,923 Coope
buttlerfly 1, 1, S Coope
(Switzerfly 1, T) 5,00m; (Swe)
27, 15sec; (European record), 2, 5 Volker
(Ger) 22,2,3, M Parssimen (Frin) 27,83,
100m branetastretoer 1, T Miller (Nor)
1,07,81: 2, V Lischito (Aut), 105:19, 3,
Peczak (Pol) 108,33, 100m freestyler, 1,
S Volker (Ger) 53,04 (European record), 2, 2, 8 Rojph (Ge), 53,04 (European record), 2, 5 Rojph (Ge), 53,04 (European record), 2, 5 Rojph (Ge), 53,04 (European record), 2, 8 Rojph (Ge), 53,04 (European record), 2, 9 Rojph (Ge), 53,04 (European record), 2, 8 Rojph (Ge), 53,04 (European record), 2, 9 Rojph (Ge), 54,04 (European record), 2, 9 Rojph (Ge), 54,04 (European record), 2, 8 Rojph (Ge), 54,04 (European record), 2, 7 Rojph (Ge), 54,04 (European reco

Table Tennis WORLD GRAND PRIX FINALS (Tonjin, China): Mose Coorter-flories V Flores (Rom) to Ke Xiang (China) 15-21, 27-13, 21-17, 21-10, V Sandomovo (Belarus) to 1 Wang (Can) 21-16, 21-16, 21-13, J Ross-kopf (Ger) to C Proan (Eng) 16-21 21-15, 21-13, 21-17, Koog Linghai (China) to W Schlagor (Aud) 21-17, 21-5, 21-10.

Craven Shio) v Griqueland West, Cape
Town (day one): Border 210 (M Boucher
71): Wastern Province 87-6 (M vini 4-25).
Johannesburg (day one): Transvaat
302-8 (O Laing 128, A Hall 80) v Eastern
Province.

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1 P114-FP BO MNOWS BEST (14) G L Moore 7-12-0

2 4572-3 SEDD ROOM (40) S Melter 7-11-10

2 127-2 PTWE TO SEDEN (12) (16) P) Nichols 7-11-6

1 11-462 HANTALAN (14) P Rich 2-11-4

1 11-462 HANTALAN (14) P Rich 2-11-7

1 0057-7 THE WINDER HAME (27) (C) Mins L Bower 10-11-1

2 225-1 DAMOER BABY (273) D WHIMMS 5-11-1

2 225-1 SARTORIES (148) (30) Thomson Januar 10-10-12

3 135224-8 EED BEAM (17) K VICCOS 5-10-10

3 4135-FP KYTTON CASTLE (12) P DICKIN 9-10-6

10 37-220 CELTIC SLVING (3) (0) Min 5 Scrib 8-10-3

11 PIP30-P DESPRISABLE (19) Min 1, Richards 9-10-6

2 SPPT-P SE SLUPPRESO (28) (2 (9) A Moore 10-10-0

2 SPPT-P SE SLUPPRESO (28) (2 (9) A Moore 10-10-0

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TOP FORM TIPS: Sectories S, Fire To Secur 7, Mais Butsing: 5-2 Five To Seven, 9-2 Sertarine, 5-1 Seed Ringe, 7-1 N Baby, Red Bean, 14-1 Despendable. T-RM GROUP STREET T-READOR RUBBLE, 3YO 2m 110;

14 KERRAWI (442) (D) (MP) N Twiston-Design 11-2

200 A CHEW TOO FAR (6) R Rows 10-12

20223 BERN BOWDERS (10) 3 Woodness 10-12

BERNING A Moore 11-2

4 CERCUS STAR (50) (MP) D Micholeson 10-12

1 SEN WIND (21) R Asaburst 10-22

3 PROVINCE (10) C Mann 10-12

APARTEMENTS ARROWN IN MARKETS 10-7

APARTEMENTS ARROWN IN MARKETS 10-7 P PORIE TIPS: Circus Star I., Karani 7, Serena S Bettings 5-2 Circus Star. 7-2 Korpet, Serena, 5-1 Mr W. Bowdon, 25-1 Apartments Abroad.

PLANGUES BOY (44) H TWISDO-Davies
1 THE LAST PLESS (7) Mrs S Smith 6-13-4
3 AN ARREST (21) Nos T Classos 8-13-0
3 AN ARREST (21) Specific 2-13-1
5 PODEROGEA (15) (3) Specific 2-13-1
5 PODEROGEA STAN (14) J GROWS 8-13-1
7 PRABABARER (12) DEROMENS ELLI-PUNTERS OVERLEAD (20) P Michels STAY LUCKY (12) N Hendurson 7-11-

P11P-6P TERAC (7) (G) M Pips 15-11-7 3461-2 HAVE TO TRIBEK (77) P Nickells 8-11-5 115-22 - SHESIA ABLITY (1644) (CID) C Maria 10-B1112-1 SELLS LIFE (17) P Hobbs 2-11-2 51142- FELLOW COUNTRYMAN (270) (0) K Balley S-(1-0 1402-F NO PARN NO GARK (28) J Gillord 8-10-12 211-- F BOOMS STRONG (25) (RF) O Nicholson 7-10-10 10550-P LUCKY LANE (17) (D) Simon Earle 12-10-8

TOP FORSE TERMS Like S., Semech Strong 7, More To Think 8 Bettings 2-1 Sounds Strong 7-2 Bells Life, 11-2 No Pain No Galo, 8-1 H Countrymon, 19-1 Sheer Ability, 13-1 Terms, 78-1 Lptty Linu. 2.45 эпга пестсына ночись николь эм эт 110уы се,000

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00 TERMAL MOST (14) R Hollesburg 8-0

30004 MACK THE LAD (96) J Herberge 9-0

3 ROFFEY SPURMEY (32) R Homos 9-0

5 SOURCE CREST (14) M Johnson 8-0

184.5ETEM M Proceds 8-9

JUST RACHELS, S Kellewid 8-9

00 MALMARCH IN SCALE (70) C Britisis 8-8

322 SUPPLEMENT (16) (16) (16) Marris 8-8

18 TEM Superholis 8, Efferensesses 7, Refine 8-8 TOP FORM TIPE Superbolis 8, Effernments 7, Rolling Spinney 6

7.30 WENTER'S TALE COMMINGHES STAKES 370 77 62,786 SS11 ARAPI (220) M Prescots 9-0
28529 POOT BATTALION (589) R Hollinshead 9-0
40065 ROMORE MR HOLSONY (200) C Alston 9-0
4015 TRALLELAZER (40) (5) C Therston 9-0
400 STATE OF GOLD (79) J Hollanton 5-11

Bestings 9-4 Arapi, 5-2 Foot Bestellon, 7-5 Trailbisser, 8-1 Nomors Mr Mospay, Just Loui, 16-7 State Of Gold.

8. OO AS YOU LIKE IT HANDREAP OF SLAFT

1 STORY DEBERT INVADIRE (16) (CD) D COMPAND 5-12-1

2 BOOK LORD SKY (18) (C) (D) A Balley 5-9-12

3 FIGURE OF SKY (18) (C) (D) A Balley 5-9-13

4 HOUSE (ROWE YER FATHER (19) (D) R Hodges 15-6-6

5 SUBSTITIEATER MARKE (16) S Borring 3-6-6

5 SUBSTITIEATER MARKE (16) S Borring 3-6-6

5 SOROW BOFFY (13) (C) (D) B Burdy 3-9-5

5 HOUSE CHEEKY CHAPPY (1) (CD) D COMPAND 5-9-5

5 HOUSE CHEEKY CHAPPY (1) (CD) D COMPAND 5-9-5

10 (D) S DORRAGON GREEN (319) J Chapman 5-9-1

11 SOROW CASTLERAK LAD (19) (D) R Tables 3-9-2

12 SUBSE (ED) ORY (73) (B) D Chapman 5-9-2

13 SUBSE (ED) ORY (73) (C) (D) P Event 6-9-3

14 COMPAND CASTLERAK LAD (19) (C) (RP) P Event 6-9-3 TOP POINT TIPS: How's Yer Patter S, Caethree Lad 7, Get Bettings 9-C How's Yer Father, 5-1 Queens Check, 6-1 Lord Stry, Mr Prouty, 7-1 Desert Inna Led, 8-1 Checky Chappy, 9-1 Theorie Maryle. O SENTLEY JEWISON HANDICAP In 17 7996 CANNINGHEN-SO
005051 GEDGEL ER PARRAGE (10) (CD) K CENNINGHEN-SO
005051 GEDGEL ER PARRAGE (10) (CD) K CENNINGHEN-SO
20110 BOOTH BASTERN FRED (20) (CD) KT of Relay 3-0-0
52132 BERTICO 07 (CD) WAY IN RESERVE 7-0-5
66-224 LONGYOURSELLIORS (178) K TIRIARY 4-0-4
DESCRIPTION ON THE RESERVE (178) K TIRIARY 4-0-4
DESCRIPTION ON THE RESERVE (178) K TIRIARY 4-0-4
DESCRIPTION ON THE RESERVE (178) K TIRIARY 4-0-4
121-30 ROOD BUSING (20) M MONGETS 5-0-1
005265 DEPLOSIVE POWERS (2) (CD) G BROWN 5-0-1
005265 DEPLOSIVE POWERS (2) (CD) G BROWN 5-0-1
005050 DEEL-LADY (45) W TURBER 4-0-11
005050 DEEL-LADY (45) W TURBER 4-0-11

TOP FORM TIPS: High Premium 8, North Reef 7, Coder Le Pessage 6 Bettlegs 3-1 High Premium, 4-1 Codez Le Pessags, 6-1 North Red, 7-1 South Easters Fred, 10-1 Bendion, Loveyoumitions, 12-1 Recing Brends, Wanshvide Cisis. 9.00 PLYMIE CATEURE SELLING STATES 1 10 77 EX.ORS

TOP PORM TIPE: Petestiin 8, Festair 7 Bettings 7-4 Petossis, 7-2 Fornair, 9-2 Setellas Descen, 5-1 Russ Of Glaces, 8-1 Self Hore, 10-1 Zelfbe, 16-1 9 cassessa Mappings, 25-1 Burning Cost.

(C) COMMENY OF ERRORS MANDACAP (IN APEZ-2787

(S) 411 MANDYLL (11) (B) W Elsoy 4-10-0

(S) 121 ML PASH DAMESER (*45) (CE) W Brishouthe 5-9-13 | Jone Reigh (7) 4

199001 SET THE PASHOON (CS) D WINDOWS 7-9-12 | S. Wilkiwstin 7

402220 ORBERGS (7) Miss 5 Wilson 5-9-13 | S. Wilkiwstin 7

402230 ORBERGS (7) Miss 5 Wilson 5-9-13 | S. Wilkiwstin 7

402240 ORBERGS (7) Miss 5 Wilson 5-9-10 | T. Spanish 19

40240 MAD MERTARIT (42) (CE) (MP) A Sweder 7-0-10 | T. Spanish 19

40240 MIN THE MOMENT (23) (CE) A Wilkinston 7-9-10 | T. Spanish 19

40240 MIN THE MOMENT (23) (CE) MINDOWN 19-10 | D. Wright 1

40240 MIN THE MOMENT (23) (CE) MINDOWN 19-10 | D. Wright 1

40240 CONTRY (*10) S Wilkinston 5-9-2 | J. Spanish 5-9-2 | J

TOP PORM TIPS: Stad Millions, 6, Manuful 7, Set The Position 6 Sections 7-2 Abertol, 9-2 Set The Fashion, 5-1 Hill Ferm Dancer, 7-1 Mari Wil. Morey, Charlin Begene, 12-1 Convy, 16-1 Pectale.

Man and Boy, Richards has double in his sights

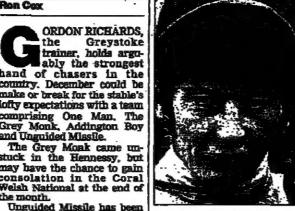
ORDON RICHARDS Greystoke trainer, holds arguably the strongest country. December could be make or break for the stable's lofty expectations with a team comprising One Man. The Grey Monk, Addington Boy and Unguided Missile.
The Grey Moak came unstuck in the Hennessy, but may have the chance to gain

the month.
Unguided Missile has been kept in reserve for a repeat bid in next Saturday's Betterware Chase at Ascot, and today Richards will be look-ing for nothing less than a sparkling win from One Man ton's Boxing Day feature, the King George. Less than half an bour

Less than half an hour later, Addington Boy will start favourite to defy top weight in the Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenham.

One Man jumped brilliantly for Mark Dwyer when truther than the second. for Mark Dwyer when trot-ting up in the Tommy Whittle Chase last year. His teak is potentially tougher today, but he should have an important edge in fitness over Rough Quest and Nahrhen Lad.

Richard Dunwoody teamed up with One Man in the refalls to win, and win well.



scheduled King George Chase at Sandown in January and the combination immediately hit it off, but the grey's dismal Gold Cup performance remains a serious blemish on

In anything approaching that form, Rough Quest would give One Man (2.15) a fright in receipt of 12lb, but the Grand National winner is said to be heafly in need of the said to be badly in need of the



first two more to do had he not slipped and lost momentum on the turn into the home straight, and since he is not

Large Action, winner of the

one of last season's most pro-

inconvenienced by fast ground, Addington Boy looks sure to make another bold bld.

battlers, Pridwell has a good record at Cheltenham and is

one of last season's most pro-gressive novice chasers and he appears capable of more improvement judging by his promising run into third place behind Challenger du Luc in the Murphy's Gold Cup at Cheltenbam a month

again, but Oliver Sherwood, his trainer, has warned be will not risk him if the ground is considered too fast. Even if he does line up, Large Action could be taken off his feet over this trip. which is three furlongs shorter than the Fatryhouse race he won on yielding ground last time out. Bimsey is one that will handle the ground, but there remains a question mark over some of Reg Akehurst's horses and it is almost by pro-cess of elimination that Pridwell (2.05) gets the vote.

the type to go well when fresh. He finished third behind Collier Bay in the Cham-pion Hurdle last season and the likelihood of a fast-run race today is in his favour. The conditions of the Lone some Glory Hurdle suit Karshi (3.45), and Kibreet (1.00) will be hard to beat on his George Stevens Handicap

hase. Back at Haydock, Dally the strong handling of in-form Russ Garritty to land the Old Hall Country Chib Handicap Burdle.

Daily Boy wandered off a true line close home when narrowly beaten by Anzum

Summer time and Gifford's uneasy

summer jumping and too much moderate racing for the plethora of small fields. The Finden trainer expressed his opinion after saddling Yorkshire Gale to win the Wragge & Co Chal-

lenge Handicap Chase, just six days after the 10-year-old had finished fourth at Yorkshire Gale easily landed his fourth course victory, making all the run-

Channel 4

Channel 4

1.35 MINISTER, MOVICE HUNDLE SAN 110/Hz CS,000

SO SERVICE, MOVINE MINISTER ON THOUGH CLUMN (E-2-11 SPACEMAGE ODLD [18] [T] J ORT 7-17-4 (E-2-12 TARRIES SERVICE (18) C Marie 5-17-4 (E-12 TARRIES SERVICE (18) C Marie 5-17-4 (E-12 TARRIES SERVICE (18) C MARIE 6-17-0 (E-12 TARRIES CHIST) (E) D DICTOR 6-17-0 (E-12 TARRIES CHIST) (E) D DICTOR 6-17-0 (E-12 TARRIES SERVICE (12) (E) [18] [18] [18] (E-12 TARRIES SERVICE (12) [18] [18] [18] (E-12 TARRIES SERVICE (12) [18] [18] [18] [18] (E-12 TARRIES SERVICE (12) [18] [18] [18] [18]

12011-1 LABORE ACTION (123) (CD) O Sherwood 5-11-0.

12011-1 LABORE ACTION (123) (CD) O Sherwood 5-11-0.

120-5 1 MARSE (EE) (CD) D Encorth 5-11-6.

120-5 1 MARSE (EE) (CD) M TO 11-11-6.

120-7 2 TREATMENTOOD (123) A CE

**SP PORMETTER FUNDET HANDRY GUARE 2m 2f 110
**SEP ANT PRIMED 11-10 C Brooks 8-11-5
**GY-44 CALLENA STAR (16) R ANDR 5-11-6
**GY-44 CALLENA STAR (16) R ANDR 5-11-6
**GY-47 COMMAND DE TON (12) MYD. L TOND 5-11-6
**GY-10 GLAMANGLITZ (SA) P Define 5-11-6
**GY-11 GLAMANGLITZ (SA) P Define 5-11-6
**GY-12 DES MANDED (3) T CASSOS 5-11-6
**GY-12 DES MANDED (3) T CASSOS 5-11-6
**GY-12 DES MANDED (3) R ANDRO 5-11-6
**G

1 ADMANCE EAST (38) (b) M Dols 4-11-5
21 ESCOTEMENT (20) (0) Mrs M Resuley 4-11-5
1 EORIGO (14) (0) Mrs V West 5-71-5
1 EORIGO (14) (0) Mrs V West 5-71-5
1 EASTERN GERALD (2011) B Former 8-70-12
400-4 OCATESTET (40) B Former 8-70-12
3-0 EXAMBLEMENT CARTELL (41) 1 PERGensis 4-10-12
40-8 BOTTAMEN (14) 13 Resules 4-10-12
140-8 BOTTAMEN (14) 13 Resules 4-10-12
TANANTARY D Mechanico 4-10-12
TEMPARE SELL MARTIN WINE 4-10-12

Buttings G-4 Art Prince, 5-2 Dukes Mention; 5-1 Callens Star, Germanglitz, 14-1 Rects's Mill, Reyal Har S-1 High Handes, Old Radewood.

_R Supple _P Nova _B Storay _G Lee (2) _G Hopen (3) _F Leeley (3) _J A RecOwley _E Hanney (3) _He R Tournium (5) _Leele (5) _Leele (5) _Leele (5) _Leele (6) _Leele (7) _Leele (6) _Leele (7) _Leele (7) _Leele (7) _Leele (7)

TOP FORM TIPS, College Ster 8, Royal Fitted 7, Classes

TOP FORM THE Redomestal S, Advance East 7,

PORM 60005 - CANOLE'S CRUSARIES Made at Liber 2 out, easily, was by II from Flying Curtaer (Asc. 3a now httl., Gd.).
SONTENSING MEASTE: Charlenged 2 out, led fast, ran on, best Fine Sir 19 (Towcester 2nd now had, Gd-91

OSH GIFFORD blames ning to beat his only rival, top of the ground," said Gifford. "But these races also cut up because there are not enough good horses to than ever, but they are bad he claimed fields for these events will not improve while the racing pro-gramme, which now in-cludes summer jumping, caters for horses of moder

ate ability.
"Neither I nor the owner like running that quickly, but the race looked like cutting up and Yorkshire Gale loves Cheltenham and likes

go round and never will be while the powers that be look after moderate horses. If they stopped summer jumping it would help racing in the autumn.

Tve got Major Summit but nowhere to run him. He must either take on the big boys, which he is not ready for, or carry top weight in a

than ever, but they are bad ones. My moderate horses have won more times this year because I can't find races for the better ones." Gifford is keen to aim Yorkshire Gale at the

Grand National, but he is losing the argument with owner Bill Naylor and the horse is likely to miss both the Betterware Cup Welsh National as well.

Cheltenham with form for the televised events

1.00 GEORGE STEVENS BAHRICAP CHASE DIE 110/4 CE,665

Professional Control of the Control TOP FORM TOTS: My Mell: 8, Addington Boy 7, Royal blee

Buttings 5-2 Addington Boy, 4-1 Royal Mountproune, 5 Belvederins, Buytone, 12-1 All For Luck, 14-1 Go Universal

Channel 4

3.15 попишения молексими за и седена

Channel 4 1111-11 MANSYS MANTHEO (18) (C) (D) 3 (Minys S-11-7 P. Male 11-512 MENSETTY PRAYER (18) F Ences Alber S-17-7 Chip Miner 10297 - Ambrilla, 1907 (1921) P Hotos S-17-12 M 1918 1519-2 KARSHE (14) Mines H Knight S-10-12 J Ordena

Sage 2-1 Mandys Michino, 9-4 Sersoky Prayer, 11-4 Karahi, 9-2 Ashaya Boy

Doncaster runners and riders

1.50 SELECTORIST CHARLES OF CLASS 1 PPR-44 SCOTTOR BARROS (21) (CD) T Examety 7-11-80
2 4247-3P BROSTMAYBARROS (EQ) (E) (IP) D Richelson 18-10-0
8 FU-102 PATHER SKY (24) G Sherwood 5-10-0
4 253-547 PROS CHARROS (12) All Horocards 6-10-0
TOP FORM TIPO: Souther Number 2, Minethineveloning 7
Bedfings 4-5 Scotton Banks, 8-2 Mantheveloning 11-2 Pierrs Gurrer, Fester Sig. TOP FORM TIPS: Tem Bredie S, New Yintege 7 Buildings 4-5 Tem Bredie, 5-1 Thornton Clate, 6-1 Elphine, 8-1 Non Ve

3.00 autocom title lan house criefe de 11074 er 270 1 (2016)-1 PARATT LIBUTEMANT (14) (0) T Casey 7-11-7 2 (5-1743 GOLDAN HELLO (6) (0) T Ensiety 4-11-7 3 111244 COURTES YAM (26) (5 Rocks 5-74-2 4 3103-40 WHENERY (14) M Bernetough 7-11-2 Buildings 5-4 Country Star, 2-1 Flight Libertonant, 11-4 Guiden Halfs, 18-4 Westhally EASISTER CODERT IA W Easierby 4-11-4 255- WOLD ACTION (2149) J. Nation 5-11-4 CRAMINELOW O Brannen 5-11-4 EASTCLUME W McGoom 4-11-4 EASTCLUME W McGoom 4-11-4 ABBRETS PROSPECT (80) J D'Hell 5-11-4 AMB GP CAMELOT D Reviews 5-11-4 PILAE SEROUTINE J REGISHA 4-11-4 RASIN STANDARDS R Cropps 5-11-4 PRACE SECUTIONS | PROGRAM 4-11-4
RAMM STANDARDS R CROSS 6-11-4
SEMBLY (11) T Extently 4-11-4
STANDARD During 4-11-4
STANDARD V (17) | Moore 5-11-4
STANDARD V (17) | Moore 5-11-4
SECTION OF THE STANDARD V RECEIVED (2002) | Sec

23.80° (22.10, 12.80, Duial P. C10.30. CSF: 220.57.
2.35 (Zm 110 yda Ca): 1, ZEDSEDAR, C C'Duyer (13-6 lay): 2, Murdail Prison (P-1): 2, Mustani Prison (P-1): 3, Mustani Majaje (15-6) 3 tan. 2, 10. K Balfey) Tote: C1.60. Dui F: D.50. CSF: Eli69. Pice Harvast: (2/1) withdrawn not ution orders. Rule 4 applies to all bets. detuction 250 in the pound.
3.30 (Zm 110 yde): 1, MURST FLYER, A Dobbin (T-1): 2, Darving Flesse (33-1): 3, Randael Looke (8-2). 4-7 (av Country Or-

Haydock with TV form

45-23 SALMAND (25) (D) MISA L SIGNET MOVINCE.

G13-23 SALMAND (25) (D) MISA L SIGNET A-11-8

G- ARTHORIAD (252) M W Emiserby 8-11-0

3- BANNEY HALL LAD (254) C Movince 6-11-1

4 SOLDE (FRANCE (25) T Generally 4-11-0

FC CARROT PROBLEE (27) J O'NEW 6-11-0

PARKET FACTOR 4-11-0

2-15 DRAKEDFRATTE (12) R SURFER 6-11-0

2-15 DRAKEDFRATTE (12) R SURFER 6-11-0

2-16 CALLEN (25) Mrs. M Reveley 5-11-0

45 KERRO RAY (21) J O'Shea 6-11-0

45 KERRO RAY (21) J O'Shea 6-11-0

OF PORM TIPE Penson 2, Onles 7, Shared High & tetiling 6-4 Sammarton, 6-2 Daumi, 8-1 Crumigo, Famour, 19-1 Lamin Adres, 16-1 Galas, Stared Ry Malacius, 20-1 Three Wild Days

291 AP3U-2 CLAY COUNTY (64) (CD) M Herston 292 PLOP - SOURD REVELLE (1-9) (D) G Herston 293 AD204 - SYMELIN (2-2) (D) J Finderski SI-11 294 (AP204 - SYMELIN (2-2) (D) J Finderski SI-11 295 (T) CLAY COUNTY (1-1) (D) R Moon B 296 (-0-2) (CLAY COUNTY (1-1) (D) R Moon B 297 (CLAY CHART CHART CAN

3	5 C -	1
2.1	5 TOW	IY WHITTLE CHARE See C10,114
101	F71116-7	CASE MAR (42) (CD) G (Octoris 5-15-10
	IZI IZI-	MAJETRIEN LAD (276) (C) Mrs. J Plentin 7-11-4 II Plentin
103	F3PP-80	COULDET BE SETTER (14) (CD) C Brooks 9-11-2
64		ENEX SLUE (15) D McCain 8-10-12 D Watch
66		EADt (18) D Nicholson 7-10-12 R. Johnson
66		QUIDALL CROSSETT (4) E Caine 11-10-12
87	22-121-	BOUGH QUEST (250) (II) T Casey 10-10-12
-		the Head Broad Great B

an-vag. DOMERSE GEFT: Ridden and laded app 2 out, 50 6th pt 7 bad Nijvsky (Haydoch ; DOMER COUNTESS: Chassed leadurs undi mapaced from 4 oet, 164 4th ol 8 AARCHAART Millid jims 10hj 21 avely 3th (Nievensche zin bap hot, Get, BOURT SHE! Handway 3 oot, wayed on storophy near Briefs, bul 2rd of 12 brid Ame

Inditings 4-7 One Mem., 11-2 Rough Guest, 5-1 Najspen Lod, Couldn't Be Batter, 12-1 Kedi, 33-1 Even Stur 90-7 Cubed Cominet

2.50 old Hall country club Hampical statule \simeq 71 1 10ightarrow ex, sac 3UF745-8 REACHY HEAD (145) J O'Hall 8-11-8 4400-2 ROMENTY LEA (145) (RP) form Noveley 9-11-510-13 JOCKS CROSS (285) G 180hpt Noveley 9-11-540-82 ROME BRADE (245) (CF) Mins S Witton 8-11-0 54-513 BALLY ROY (145) (RF) T Enterby 4-10-13 14/519-1 JORGETT MILLY (848) J Gary 8-10-19 (28-613 ROCK THIS BEAK (7) John R Upson 7-10-5 279-65 TRANSPORT (BORT (70 J.) Februard (5-5) -TOP POSE TIPL THE STAR STAR S. High The Read T. Judy Come C.

Betshap 6-2 Jocks Cross, 11-4 Delly Soy, 9-2 Roberty Lee, 5-1 Mr. The Beek, 49-1 Thursday Hight, 12-1 High Grade, Santa Coccerto, 14-1 Past Thoughts 35-22-5 STARRAY RACKETS (No.) (NO.) F Jacobs 8-11-16
801 1065-21 SABIT CIES. (No.) (NO.) F Jacobs 8-11-16
803 307-402 AUSTRIN BOY (11) (DS M W Existerly 9-11-5 —
804 12713 SUAS LEAT (22) (D) J J Jefferson 5-11-1
804 180-15 STEPHIAL CITY (81) (DP) G Richards 5-15-4 —
806 3-10-7021 TBF IT DR (10) (D) A Shib 7-10-5
806 3053-00 SEARDINAM (18) D MORIS 5-10-4 —
806 3053-00 SEARDINAM (18) D MORIS 5-10-4 —
807 647-03 SURROLLINK SEARDIN (80) D MCCAIN 4-10-8 —

Betting 9-4 Saint Clei, 11-4 Auburn Boy, 7-2 Tip it in, 5-1 Sees Last, 8-1 Elemei City, 20-1 Grendmen Translet Sharby ● Blinkered today for the first time: CHELTENHAM: 1.35 Tarrs Bridge. HAYDOCK: 12.45 King Rat; 3.25 Eurolink Shadow. LINGFIELD: 1.40 Treasure Again; 2.10 Have To Think; 3.20 Seasonal Splendour. WOLVERHAMPTON: 9.30

LINOFIELD

Results chid. 11 ran. Nk. 5. (F Murtagh) Tom: 29.70; 25.00, \$18.60, \$1.10. Dani F: \$388.90. Tric: 255.47. CSF: \$201.07. PLACEPOT: \$12.50. QUADPOT: \$13.50.

CHELTENHAM

CHELTENHAM

12.15 (2m 17 Hajan) 1, DEALLOWED, M
A Fitzgerald (4-1 tav); 2, Seededy Maylo
(10-1); 2, Fissensystem (5-1); 12 ran. 4, 1.
(Miss H Knight) Tosc (2,50; 22.00, 12.50, 12.00, 12.00, 10.01); 622.60. Tric: 145.00, CSP:
250.5 Dual F: 622.60. Tric: 145.00, CSP:
250.51, 13.46 (the 17 110 pric Chit; 1, Fulletty
(4-7 tay); 3, Lacri of The West (15-6) 3 ran.
3, 11, (6f Western) Tota: 65.70. Dual F: 12.70,
CSP: (13.02
1.50 (2m 87 the) 1, SEATSON, 6f Hogan
(5-4 tay); 2, Buyers Bresten (6-2); 3, Linshaw's Lossic (9-2), 5 ran. 7, dist. (6 Buckter)
Tota: (1.0; (1.30, 51.00, 50.00) File. (1.0), 67.

1.50 (2m 87 Holes) 1, CMAN-YO, 6 Upton
(5-4 tay); 2, Rhysmour (9-1); 3, Seversigns Paractic (11-2), 4 ran. 12, 21, (J Old)
Tota: (1.0), 12 (1.0), 13 (2.0), 13 (2.0), 13 (2.0), 14 (2

13.05 (2nn 49 Helin): 1, 1898 AT THE TOP,
W Fry [6-4]: 2, Merbert Ladge (11-10 fev);
3, Threedswood (10-1). B ran. 3, 12, [J
Norton) Tote: (2.50; C1.10, 51.50, 51.40, Duel
F: 51.50. Trio: 24.10. CSP: 52.71
12.28 (2nn 110) de Hempi 1, TOBLSTON
LADY, Mr F Thornton [6-1]: 2, Lampings
Butsonner (4-1 to-fav); 3, Oekkerry (6-1).
4-1 po-fav Mudderk, Song For Jees. 11 ran.
No. rik. (J Wharton) Tote: 513.00; 52.00,
52.10. Duel F: (31.60, Trio: 5184.80.
CSP: 64.05. 1.10 (3m Ch): 1, BEFLIDE BOT TO, J 1.10 (3m Ch): 2, BEFLIDE BOT TO, J Cabornel-Siav): 2, Kay To Mogade (6-1); 3, Benevation Liby (50-1), 4 ran. 4, dist. (6 Sherward) Tote: \$1.50. Dual F: \$1.50. CSF: \$2.03.

2.09. 1.46 (2m 3f † 10yrds Ch): 1, CHEBRILAN CNALLENGE, R Garritty (5-4 tay): 2, Caston Bay (11-5): 3, Crystal Spirit (6-2) 3 rin. 5, 25, (T Essisyly) Tots: 22.20. Dual F: 51.50, CSF: (2.27, NR: In Trut).
2.50 (2m 110yrds Helle): 1, ORT ON A PROMISE, O Finnegan (7-2): 2, Paikhtel Mend (5-1): 3, Past Receive (12-1), 13-6 tay Cahary Fation, 7 ran. 6, 7, (N Walker) Tota: 2, 500: (2.10, 12.50, Dual F: C10.30, CSF: 220.57.

RACELINE 0930 168+ COMMENIAR CHELTENHAM 101 DONCASTER

2. PROOFFIELD

11.25 (SF): 1, MASTER OF PASSION, D. SWEEDER (7-2); 2, SMES SENDE (5-1); 3, MESS ARROWS (15-2); 10 ren. 18, ab led. (3); 12, MESS ARROWS (15-2); 10 ren. 18, ab led. (3); 12, ab led. (3); 11.55 (16-2); 10 ren. 18, ab led. (3); 11.55 (16-2); 21 ren. 18, ab led. (3); 11.55 (16-2); 21.50. CSF: 218-8.

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Robson relief

as Emerson is

back for Boro

Soccer

World Cup, Group Nine

Northern Ireland v Albania

Mystery men come into the Irish cold

Michael Walker in Belfast

HE MYSTERIOUS phenomenon known as the Albanian foot-ball team moves into the cold and probably halfempty auditorium called Windsor Park this afternoon — an achievement in itself.

A couple of weeks ago this Northern Ireland fixture looked in doubt after Fifa ve-toed the Albanian FA's participation in World Cup affairs because of "political interfer-ence" from the Albanian

Apparently the Albanian regime, whose elections ear-lier this year fell short of normal definitions of democratic, fin and George O'Boyle (both came up with the notion that because their FA had not held drawn from the original

replaced. However, once Fifa, that bastion of democracy, heard of this they came riding to the rescue of the original members who were as promptly reinstated, having he would have been better off the control of the c

given the guarantee of an election in February.

Thus today's game goes ahead although, to add intrigue, the Albanian FA's general actions and actions are actions and actions and actions are actions and actions and actions are actions and actions are actions and actions and actions are actions as a constant actions are actions and actions are actions as a constant actions are actions as a constant action actions are actions as a constant action and actions are actions as a constant action actions are actions as a constant action actions are actions as a constant action actions are actions as a constant actions are actions as a constant action actions are actions as a constant action actions are actions as a constant action actions action eral secretary Eduard Dervi-shi has not made it to Belfast. Then again, neither have inspired draw in Nuremburg some of the squad. Two play- last month.

mata have been stranded out-side Athens as a result of the farmers' blockade of roads while the midfielder Sokol Prenga refused to travel because he says he has not been paid for the 1-1 draw with Ar-

Astrit Hafizi, the Albanian manager appointed after the 3-0 defeat by Portugal in the opening qualifier, may therefore think he needs sympathy from his opposite number.

Bryan Hamilton, though,

has severe problems of his own. Six players — Keith Gilespie (Newcastle), Jim Magilton (Southampton), Nigel Worthington (Stoke), Anton Rogan (Millwall), Danny Grifelections for some time, it had abused its authority.

The Albanian FA was promptly dissolved and Billy Bingham over the availability of the Blackpool

> playing for Blackpool against Preston last night. This has not gone down too well; Quinn remains in Belfast. He may well feature because Northern Ireland need goals if they are to build on their

Group Seven: Wales v Turkey

Wales look to video reviver

Bobby GOULD has tried to help his Wales players forget the humiliation in Holland by playing them a video compilation illustrating how well they have the players but will not another the players but played since then with their

As Wales prepared for today's Group Seven game with Turkey, Gould at-tempted to restore confidence with the video screening, hop-ing club form can be welded into an effective national face the Turks with his shin

out of 12 at the halfway stage, don't get a whack on it, I'll be will again top their group if all right," said the Chelsea they beat the Turks and the striker. current leaders Holland draw

in Belgium tonight. But Wales have played more games than their main rivals and must win their remaining four matches to reach the target Gould set before the opening game against

San Marino in June.
"I said 18 points because that would make qualifying a cast iron certainty," recalled Gould, who shrugged off the suggestion that four wins out of four may be beyond his team after the 7-1 drubbing in Eindhoven last month.

nounce it until an hour before kick-off. Neither would he reveal which player will have a fit-ness test this morning. Mark Hughes seemed the obvious

wound protected by padding. Wales, who have six points | 'It's tender but, provided I

Hughes is poised to resume his striking partnership with Dean Saunders, who has been a useful spy for Gould having spent last season playing for Galatasaray in Turkey.

Hughes's return, along with those of Ryan Giggs and the captain Barry Horne, will give Wales a much stronger look than in Holland. Gould also makes changes at the back with Mark Bowen dropped and Alan Neilson injured. Huddersfield's Steve Jenkins may come in at rightback and the versatile Gary "Ask Wimbledon if it's real- | Speed deployed as a sweeper.





Alf Inge Haaland (Notting-ham Forest), who helped bring a glimmer of hope in with

A N Other

LONDON does not often produce the good technique allied to a shrewd footballing brain that this Chis-wick-born midfielder em-bodied during the course of a long and varied career. For 10 seasons he stayed home on the range, briefly leading his country. Then he mended windows, re-turned to old haunts for a while, and reached for the sky before touring the old GWR routes, with a stopover by a famous victory in between. He now runs a sugar emporium.

Last week: Bob Paisley

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The Guardian Cinteractive



Pulling his weight . . . Waddle, keen to make it to management one day, encourages his fellow Bentams 💮 ANDREW VAFLEY

Streetwise and fancy-free

Michael Walker meets Chris Waddle, 36 today, turning out for Bradford City and still showing flair and invention

NVENTION and flair: me go, but he had other Kevin Keegan sat in the echoing squash court that doubles as Newcastle United's venue for press con-ferences and lamented that the essential ingredients which have spiced up his team in the past have been

missing recently.

It was the Monday after gan hoped for better that night, too, but invention and flair were again left on the shelf. However, if the Newcastle

manager had been tempted to look to the skies for inspira-tion, his eyes would have stopped at the television gantry. There in the commentary box sat a genuine master of invention, Chris Waddle.

Waddle is 36 today and will turn out for Bradford City at home to Reading, and to those who think it far-fetched that he could still be playing for Newcastle there is Peter Beardsley (36 next month) and the fact that it is only nine months since Keegan last tried to sign Waddle. It never happened, though, and the player is sorry about that. "Newcastle had a lot of inju-

ries and suspensions at the time and I was ready to take a gamble," he says. "A player like myself would love to play for Newcastle or Man United or Liverpool, it's just the way they play football. And I think David Pleat would have let | and I went to Falkirk to prove | I'm glad it didn't happen in a | Invention and Flair.

my match fitness, not just to | way. I want a club as ambi-others but to myself. When I | tious as I am, that wants to came back [to England] it did | win things. I'm not just looksurprise me that no one came in from the Premiership." After all it was only three easons ago that he was Footballer of the Year.

However, he realises there may be a good reason. Wad-die is ambitious, has made no secret of it, and any club manager tempted by his shuffling skills might be put off by the thought of signing a succes-sor in waiting. In October £750,000 tag on his player — Celtic had offered that before Newcastle, but Waddle de-Waddle was sitting at home near Sheffield "with Saturday Newcastle had lost to Arsenal clined — and Pleat rejected approaching. I'd got fit and and the day before Metz arrived at St James' Park. Kee Yet Pleat would not give Chesterfield. Walsall, that Waddle the two-year contract | sort of level - no disrespect

'It did surprise me that no one came in from the Premiership'

he wanted and, after a frus- | - then Bradford came along the summer. Waddle was hear: 'Just go out and play'.' given a free transfer, but only after this season started. "I didn't see that David Pleat had any plans for me," says waddle. "His ideal opportunity to let me go came when they won their first four league games and he obviously felt more secure. But the season had begun and most managers had their squads sorted."

Wednesday fans disgruntled that Waddle was on the

bench. Pleat, aware of Wad-dle's rapport with the Hills-borough crowd, had put a

was not Old Trafford or Anfield calling, it was Brockville Park — Chris Waddle was off to Falkirk. 'I was a little dis-

trating end to last season and and said what I wanted to Initially with Bradford for a month, Waddle has signed for the season and is in such form that last Saturday's performance at Maine Road was mentioned in despatches as a "masterclass". Bradford still lost, however, and face Reading with only Oldham below them in the First Division, but Waddle would have appreciated the irony had they won because Manchester City So Waddle waited by the telephone but, when it rang, it are the club with whom he came closest to achieving his ambition to be a manager.

ing for a job for two years, then get the sack and have people saying, 'Well, what did he do when he was here?' In a career entering its 18th eason and that has taken in Newcastle, Spurs, Marseille, Sheffield Wednesday, Falkirk, Bradford and 62 caps for England, Waddle has experienced

many management styles; he favours a combination of Terry Venables and Arthur with that number as Cox, a sort of charismatic disciplinarian.

themselves. He could get players to believe they were better than they were. "Arthur Cox, he bullied me for two years and I thought he was a right bastard. But I know now that he was never off my back because he

wanted me to achieve something. Lots of young players think they are the finished article but they're not. I still call him 'boss'."

The secret, he thinks, is being streetwise — "commonsense streetwise. I've got that".

So it is not fancy training regimes learned in Marseille? "Nah, there we just played eight-a-side with big goals for an hour every morning. Mind you, we had the players."
They certainly did: Abedi
Pele, Jean-Pierre Papin, Didier Deschamps and the man

called "magique" — Chris Waddle, His video was a best-"Yeah, I spoke to a consortium and they were keen to install me as the manager but Keegan would have titled it

conspiracy among Scot-land's referees is likely to land's referees is likely to be investigated by the Scot- are shameless."

Patrick Glenn

tish FA next month. Di Canio is reported to have told the Italian sports magazine Guerin Sportivo in a taped interview that many Scottish match officials are "shameless" in their blas against Celtic

land except the referee-ing," Di Canio is alleged to CLAIM by Celtic's Italian forward Paolo Di Canio of a Protestant conspiracy among Scot-Rangers at Ibrox this afternoon, giving the champions

The SFA will exmaine his alleged comments and then decide whether to seek clarification from the player.
Di Canio could be fined if
found guilty of criticism of officials.
There is no risk of the

ploit Celtic's midweek inac-tivity when beaten 1-0 at Dundee United.
But Smith dismissed the and in their favourable Italian finding trouble notion that Old Firm play-squad that beat Hearts 2-1 handling of Rangers.

"I like everything in Scottive. Their match at Raith | season because of Rangers' and except the referee was postponed because of attempt to equal Celtic's regg," Di Canio is alleged to international calls. And Di cord nine successive Canio is suspended for Ceit-ic's next game, at Dunferm-line on Wednesday.

Dunfermline first face championships.
"There is certainly more hysteria around outside the

"The onns of winning trophies is always with Old Firm players and this sea-son is no different." another opportunity to stretch their lead over Smith restores Jorg Al-bertz to his squad after his Celtic to 11 points. Walter Smith's side failed to exrecovery from a thigh injury. Aberdeen, now second, will entertain Motherwell with the same

Referees biased, claims Di Canio

the side against Liverpool at Antield today in a move that the manager Bryan Robson hopes will end a long-running saga of trouble and strife. The gifted midfielder flew

back to Brazil again last month and threatened not to return to England this time because his wife was homesick. There have been reports of a possible move from the chilly north-east to the sun-nier climes of Barcelona but Robson has had clear the air talks with the unsettled cou-ple and insisted: "Things are looking a lot better. Emer-son's wife is now 100 per cent

this country.
"Hopefully the meeting has resolved a lot of problems. We have tried to handle the situa-

MERSON, the wayward we are propared as a club to support Emerson. He has had problems but not been as bad as made out. There have been as made out. There have been inaccurate reports.

"His wife seems a lot hap-pier after the talks we have had and so does he. There have never been any prob-lems with Emerson in training or on the pitch. We will do everything we can to help his wife feel relaxed and settled in this country."

Emerson's team-mate Fa-brizio Ravanelli is to sue the Daily Mirror for suggesting he too was unhappy and wanted to leave, "I have read a number of articles which attribute comments to me which have been without any foundation whatsoever," he said. "The articles in the Mirror have caused me great embarrassment.

"I want to tell all Boro fans that I could not have hoped to settle in better on Teesside."

Sugar junior has Iversen's number

Soccer Diary

Robert Pryce

STEFFEN IVERSEN may be feeling a little tired — he hasn't had a break since Rosenborg resumed their European Cup programme in March — but the Norwegian, touch wood, appears ready to break Tottenham's recent buying irends: after Cundy. Scott, Fox, Sinton and Scales, fans were coming to expect cast-offs. "Whose reserve team does he play that Spurs were trying to sign Ramon Vega.

But Alan Sugar, who continues to wax bitter on the subject of oversees signings. may have a different view. Handing Iversen the No. 18 shirt was not quite the warm gesture of welcome it seemed, given that Sugar once said he would not wash with that number as worn

Iversen, who said he had 'Terry had presence, he not known about the Klinshad this aura about him and mann connection, may not could get players to express have wanted the shirt and the comparisons it invited with its previous owner, but strangely enough he matter. He just took the one that Daniel Sugar threw across to him.

> BRUCE RIOCH may not have hit it off with lan Wright, but he impressed players at Middlesbrough when he was manager there in the late Eighties, as Bernie Slaven has been telling MSS, the magazine of Middlesbrough Supporters South. "He did a great job," the striker said. "If it wasn't for Bruce, I don't believe Middlesbrough would have survived." Rioch was known as a dis-

> ciplinarian even then, yet he tolerated some of the lads' more juvenile lapses. "There was one occasion." Slaven recalled, "when me and Pally jumped up on a bedroom window ledge, hid behind the curtains, and we heard the door closing . . We presumed it was Dean Glover. So the two of us leapt about six feet, landed on top of who we thought was Deano, and it was actually Bruce Rioch." A hard man, Rioch. Un

like everyone else at Boro jumped by Slaven and Gary Pallister — and there were a few — he never even flinched. "He never smiled and he never jumped," Slaven said. "He just sort of walked away"

ERE's an unmissable opportunity for you memorabilia collectors: Karren Brady's former company car — a J-reg pow-der-blue Porsche Carrera — is being auctioned for charity next week. This is the very Porsche that the Bir-mingham City managing di-rector was driving to a Neighbourhood Watch meeting when a Chanel handbag was snatched off the passenger seat by an op-portunistic youth.

John Dixon, managing director of a Coventry computer firm, paid £32,000 for the car. He has donated it to the charitable trust that he set up after his wife died of cancer — he aims to raise £1 million to build a hospice — and it will be the top item to go under the ham-mer at the opening night of Little Red Riding Hood at the Priory Theatre in Ken-ilworth on Wednesday.

Brady has supplied Dixon with a letter of authentication, which is a charitable enough gesture even if it is unlikely to reassure any potential purchaser - Birmingham City were fined £20,000 only last month on four charges of misleading the public.

DELIA SMITH loves foot-ball and food, passions as previously irreconcilable as Birmingham City and success, and now that she is on the Norwich City board she plans to sort out the Carrow Road catering. But first, she told the Cariton Food Network this week, "I have to do something about the strip" — and she doesn't mean marinade it in lime juice and coriander. When she's finished with

Norwich, can she sort out the Welsh team, please? Removing the ketchup from their shirt fronts would be a good start.

OT everything on Tees-side is less inviting than Rio de Janeiroside. Moaner's comedy club in Stockton promises in its brochure of forthcoming events: "Even Emerson's wife would enjoy this."

Coventry tied by red tape

dashed by red tape. The man-ager Gordon Strachan had hoped to complete the £800,000 signing of the Ukraine defender Alexander Jewtuschok from Dnepr but the 26-year-old will have to wait another three or four

Coventry's secretary Gra. month.

COVENTRY's hopes of ham Hover said: "Documentation that we require from the Ukrainian FA to enable us tation that we require from the Ukrainian FA to enable us to apply for a work permit has still to come through." The Sheffield Wednesday striker Mark Bright has joined Millwall on a month's loan, but Bolton have failed in an attempt to secure the Wednesday midfielder John Sheridan on loan for a second

Page .

Athletics

Passport plan to put pressure on drug cheats

Duncan Mackay In Monte Carlo

HE latest move in the battle against drugs cheats was made here yesterday when plans for a organisation is to demand special "passport" for athletes were revealed. It is each event register for a prohoped the scheme will help the sport avoid expensive drugs testing to qualify to

disputed drug tests cost it and pics which requires competiits member federations at least \$24 million (£14 million). Now, with \$20m in prize money available at the IAAF's events next year, the organisation is to demand gramme of out-of-competition receive orizes.

last year that litigation over | before last summer's Olym- | at our world championships | at the Atlanta Olympics, | poor men of Great Britain's tors to accept a fast-track appeals procedure and to abandon their normal legal rights. It would allow the IAAF to broaden the scope of one else in the future." its drugs tests.

first IAAF event to pay prize money will be the world in-Explaining suspicion surrounding startling improve-ment, Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president, said: legal battles.

The International Amateur
The passport is a developAthletic Federation estimated ment of a contract introduced next year wins a gold medal

in Athens, then we will congratulate them and pay them the money. But they must Nebiolo announced that the

door championships in Paris next March, World-record bonuses of \$50,000 will also be on offer.

Michael Johnson and Svetlana Masterkova would have won at least \$200,000 in addlknow that we will be testing them far more often than anyhave banked a similar amount for winning the 100 metres in world-record time. Last night the three received special awards at the Interna-tional Athletic Foundation's annual dinner.

While the rich were dining Had such a system existed out on the Côte d'Azur, the been in fine form.

cross-country team were prefor tomorrow's European championships. The British Athletic Fderation, short of money, is sending a goldmedal rated team to Charlerol without reserves Since Keith Cullen, fourth

last year, has been suffering from flu all week it is a risky policy, especially since the first reserve, Neil Caddy, has



rname

Rowell spectre at the feast

Robert Armstrong says only a multi-try win today will satisfy the England coach

cheerful Christmas and a non-controvertoday's international against Argentina at Twickenham.

in theory the Argentinians should not present a major obstacle, even with New Zealand's Alex Wyllie now on their coaching staff, but Rowell has too much experience of apparently second-rank opponents to be unaware that snares and pitfalls lie in wait. It was almost a wear ago that It was almost a year ago that Rowell plunged deep into a winter of discontent when England suffered the embarrassment of booing and slow handclapping during their un-

visiting Western Samoans. Then, as now, England were making a painful at-tempt to develop a flexible, running style that Rowell

HE England coach
Jack Rowell will be
banking heavily on a match against Scotland.

Once against scound.
Once again Rowell's inescapable at an shadow looms large over England's mostly cloistered five-day build-up.
As the England coach prowis the corridors of his team's Richmond hotal dispensions. Richmond hotel dispensing barbed witticisms like a perverse Santa Claus, the players will be nervously aware that anything less than a stylish multi-try victory will bring down upon their well-rewarded heads a ton of, let us say, brandy sauce.

say, brandy sauce. Like any successful com-

land Barbarians. If Rowell's squad preparations had not been seriously disrupted by club politics in the early autumn, the weight of expectation would have been much heavier by the time they met the New Zealanders, whose

All Blacks had been beaten 15-9 at Twickenham in 1993. As things stand, Rowell's new-age England have lost the only matches that have really mattered this year — against France and the New Zealand Barbarians — although they did win the Five Nations
Championship with a bit of indirect help from Wales.
In Rowell's favour it must

be said that the forwards, not trounce Argentina.

backs performing like jerky | public utterances tend to | bility to lieutenants capable of marionettes in last month's | focus on the backs. If that is | bitting the builtet.

34-19 defeat by the New Zea- | correct, chances are that | Indeed, some members of the | Rowell does not work on the same wavelength as Les Cus-

worth and Mike Slemen, his specialist backs coaches. Rowell is not a man who readily admits to disappointment, yet one senses a mix-ture of surprise and baffled pride each time England fall to one of the southern hemicharge 32 months ago the for-mer Bath coach has regis-tered one win apiece against South Africa and Australia, ways avoided confrontation.
One thing is certain: Rowell and Jason Leonard, his tembut there have been two defeats each by the New Zea-landers and South Africa. That mediocre record makes

it doubly important to change Argentina.

However, one myth that clings to Rowell needs to be dispelled: the assumption that he is an arrogant dictator. Not even his closest colleagues would describe the England coach as a modest man har few

England camp believe that Rowell, far from being arrogant, has a sentimental weak easily with the tough decisions expected of an international coach. Dick Best, the former close to the mark when he claimed that Rowell has al-

porary captain, will have done their homework on the strong aggressive Argentina pack, which offers the Pumas their best chance of an upset. Determined forwards such as won enough ball in recent Tests against the Springboks and France to enable the creative talents of backs such as Arbizu, Quesada and Jurado to flourish and produce tries.

England, though, have no excuses for failing to live up to their potential, having got the cobwebs out of their sys-



tries against Italy and the New Zealanders. The return of two of Rowell's old boys, Jeremy Guscott and Tony Underwood, could well bring three-quarter line, provided the half-backs Gomarsall and Catt, who has been passed fit despite a chest injury, make

Like any successful company director, Rowell is a past master at playing for time and making modest achievements sound like minor miracles. He was at it again this week, suggesting that England's passing had improved out of sight, when all the world had seen the least the newcomers Regan, Shaw and Sheasby, have been in compelling form, although the line in compelling form, although the is an arrogant dictator. Not even his closest colleagues would describe the England coach as a modest man but few the England coach is comfortable, open-minded and ready to devolve power and responsi-Small plays the big man for the Boks

Donald McRae on

the self-confessed 'nut' who wants to sell underwear and become as cultured as Eric Cantona

says James Small with a helpless grin, "I was always destined to end up facing a destined to end up facing a guy as huge as him. Eighteen months ago we're in Johannesburg, my old home town, and it's the World Cup final, the Springboks against the All Blacks. This is the one we've been dreaming of for so long. The whole nation, from Nelson Mandels down is Nelson Mandela down, is rocking. You can seel this longing for us to win. But, to be honest, I'm scared to

A tiny laugh slips out, as African wing is in person. 'Jonah Lomu's awesome. He's standing tall at 6ft 5in and clocking in at 120 kilos. I'm 5ft 10in and sitting pretty on the same wing at 85. And the whole country is saying, 'go on James, go get him,

Small settles back into memory, already anticipating the delicious twists to a story which defines him as one of international rugby's most resourceful players and great-

est characters.
Just before the game Mandela, wearing his replica Springbok jersey as he moved down the line to meet both teams, stopped in front of Small. The President offered the No. 14 a curious smile.
"And then," Small says. "Mandela laughed, very gently. You could see it in his gently. You coum see it in his eyes. He was thinking, 'Shame! This poor guy is marking Lomu.' Mandela took my hand and said, 'You've got a big job to do today, Mr Small.'"

opponents which has made loved Springboks for disciplinary reasons — a fact plinary reasons — a



'Near a record . . . Small at the National Stadium where he closes in on Frik du Preez's 38 caps with a 35th Springboks appearance

South African dumped Lomu on the Ellis Park turf in a he-

roic series of tackles.
"When you hit him hard,"
Small says thoughtfully, "it
doesn't feel normal. It's like
hitting a wall. He's no ordinary guy. But I got his attention. Jonah's now very aware of me on the park. I'm this psycho-kid who's not gonna stop at anything."

psycho-kid who's not gonna stop at anything."

Small often plays up to this unhinged persona, for he thrives on the enduring intensity of his role as the most controversial player in South African rugby. Though punch him back, I get turfed punch him back, I get turfed to the control of the

25-year-old record of 38 caps when, against Wales at the National Stadium, Cardiff, tomorrow he pairols the wing

for the 35th time.

Small prefers to reflect on the fact that "ii's been pretty much an even spread of ups and downs over the last nine years. At the start of each sea-son I think that this is gonna

today, Mr Small."

Much as we can delight in the cuteness of this name-play, the 27-year-old Small is no stripling. While he may be dwarfed by Lomu he still exudes the physical presence of a wide-shouldered light heavyweight. Yet it is the imposing psychological hold Small exerts over his larger opponents which has made loved Springboks for disciplinary reasons — a fact the controversial player in South African rugby. Though Argentina Test. Stupidly I punch him back. I get turfed out of the side. Then, earlier this year, they drop me against the All Blacks because there's this huge scandal that I'm partying on the rooted in mere myth. He has blown right out of proportion. I'm getting into plack and white photography. Fashion stuff. So I go to my friend's fashion show and

"In New Zealand some talk-"In New Zealand some talk show host says that you can see how badly drugs have affected me. He says you can see the madness in my eyes. And while he's talking they start showing these clips. I might be about to ruck a ball but they freeze the frame and his complex personality. say 'look at the frenzy in James Small'. After a while

James Small'. After a while you just say to hell with it. I'm happy with my image. It sells and it forces people to give me a little space. A lot of them think I'm gouna turn round and deck them.

"When we attended this State President's function for winning the World Cup, Mandela comes up and says, 'James Small, my son has posters of two white men all over his wall. One of them is Francois Pienaar, which I can understand. But, for some unknown reason, the second known reason, the second man is you. He laughed, but that made me think — jeez, even the President thinks I'm bad."

Former Wales

prop sues Merle

DICKY EVANS, the Wales prop put out of the game for more than four months

suing the France lock for damages in the Franch

age in his left ankle, which

had a screw and plate in-serted. The former Llanelli

"I kept quiet in 1995,"
Evans said yesterday. "I
now realise that but for Mr
Merle I would have been

Weish team became professional, I lost out. They

courts.

on the ankle.

over head-butt

"I was recently paid my big-gest compliment," he mur-murs. "I was described as the Eric Cantona of South Africa. skill Cantona has in his left foot I'd be a happy man. But Cantona also has that im-mense intelligence."

Small looks meaningfully at me before he takes out his sive Attack, John Hyatt, The me before he takes out his wallet. Eventually he finds the neatly folded set of words. "To achieve happiness," he reads aloud, "sometimes you have to go through the worst depths of despair. Genius is about digging yourself out of the hole you have fallen — or been pushed — into. Fallure makes you succeed."

The Springbok tyro looks

sive Attack, John Hyatt, The Waterboys and other artists the features on a compilation album released in South Africa as The Small Collection.

"We've sold 15,000 so far deal with a company called Mr Price. We're gonna do this range of underwear. We've got the perfect name. It just has to be Smalls."

Small, who has apparently | up sharply and confirms the lone everything from biting | truth -- "that is a direct quote from Eric Cantonal" "But James," I reply, sounding as if I have lived in England a little too long, "you

support Liverpool!"
"Ja," he enthuses, with unimpeachable logic, "but I also love Cantona! You remember what he said about journalists and seagulls."

Before I can trawl through any kung-fu links, Small tears away on another artistic jag, raving about gritty American novels by Iceberg Slim and Edward Bunker before dipping down to talk about Mas-

International: Wales v South Africa

Wales hope lies in fatigue

David Plummer in Cardiff

COUTH AFRICA end the Omost punishing schedule in their history tomorrow when they take on Wales at the National Stadium. It will be their 13th Test in 166 days and they have spent the week relaxing after a tour to Argentina and France.
The South Africans

regard tomorrow as a game too far after a hectic period which started with the Super 12 series in March. They were lured to Cardiff believing they would bring the curtain down on the National Stadium before the bulldozers moved in.
But contractors decided

they did not have to start work until February, which means two more in-ternationals there before

seat stadium begins.

The South Africa coach

Andrew South Africa coach

The South Africa coach

The South Africa coach

The South Africa coach Andre Markgraaff is not have chosen five jumpers

never have accepted this itinerary but we agreed to play Wales because it was to be the lest watch by to be the last match at their stadium. Unfortunately

that is now not the case.
"It is surprising but I do not want to say much be-cause of the friendship which exists between the countries." Despite their fatigue the

same team who won their four games in Argentina and France are determined

of the three forward departments. While South Africa have power and pace at forward, Wales have neither. After being routed at the line-out

Welsh preparations yesterday were disrupted when Allan Bateman and Gareth Llewellyn were stuck on a train outside Reading because of a derailment while the squad

The Wales coach Kevin Bowring said: "We know it will be our hardest match this year but we will go into it believing we can win. We and France are determined to make it five in Cardiff.

Wales's innocent gusto of last season's championship has been replaced by a more functional approach. But they have yet to find the right formation in any of the three forward.

Minutes.*

Waler II Jackins (Pontypridd); I Bean (Lignelli), A Bademar (Richmond), S Chiks (Swanses), D Jannes (Bridgend); J Davids (Cardill, G. Hewsley (Cardill, G. Leydey (Swanses), J Humphreys (Cardill, G. D. Young (Cardill, G. Lieweilly (Harlequins), III Rewley (Pontypridd), D McLaboth (Pontypridd), C Chardis (Bwanses), S Wallans, Nesthi, S GUTH AFRICA: A Joshori J Stanii, J Ruilder, H Le Roux, J Olivier H Honiball, J unn der Westheltzen D Theren, J Dallon, A Carvey, K Wilson, M Andrews, R Kruger, A Venter, G Telohassum (copil-

Scotland v Italy

Hastings back to do battle as Italy seek breakthrough

prop put out of the game for more than four months by a head-butt from Olivier Merle in a 1995 Five Nations match in Paris. So Five Nations Championship.
The Italians, defeated 54-21

by England last month and Evans, a fireman who maybe only a couple of good now packs down for Cardigan at the age of 36, suffered a broken nose and, as pushed Wales and Australia he fell, a double fracture of close earlier this season and the leg and ligament dam see today as another chance to press their case. had a screw and plate in-serted. The former Llanelli player has needed further coach Richie Dixon. "Italy

are here to win as part of their bid to get into the Five Nations and it is up to us to set the challenge for them." For Scotland the 23-year-old Northampton prop Matt Stewthe No. 1 loose-head prop for Wales in the World Cup. "After that, when the the senior, returns for his 68rd cap. The former Lions lock Andy Reed, who collected the

England game through injury. England game through injury.

SCOTLAND: R Shopbard (Melicae): A
Stanger (Hawick): B Hastings
(Walsonians): G Tewnsend
(Northampton, capt). K Legam (Striling
County): C Chalteners (Melrose): B
Redpath (Melrose): D Hilton (Bath). K
MeKesels (String County). E Shewhet
(Northampton). D Creeks (Waspe). A
Read (Waspe). M Walson (GHK). I Smith
(Gloucaster). E Paters (Bath).

11 ALY (from): Mercento Guttitie, D
Demingages, I Prosecutto, G Cold, L
Mantari, F Mazzario, N Mazzario, J
Partile, A Trospon, P Vaccori, O
Armedo, A Cantellani, C Checchimato,
(Copt), A Meccanil, Massime Cuttitie, C

 Scotland Under-21s showed the seniors the way as they

the seniors the way as they cantered to a 41-15 win over Italy Under-21s at Inverleith yesterday.

Two tries apiece from the Edinburgh Academicals winger Danny Bull and West of Scotland centre Alan Bulloch, plus 16 points from the boot of Heriot's fly-half Gordon Ross, set up the victory. earned more in the next five games than I received in all two years ago, replaces Doduct of Heriot's fly-half Gormy 19 internationals."

Aust Office was done that the Country of the next five games than I received in all two years ago, replaces Doduct of Heriot's fly-half Gormy 19 internationals."

Last posting day for **Xmas**



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Casting off the big shadow Liam Botham turns away from cricket



Small explosion in Cardiff South Africa's doughty winger faces Wales

The Guardian

Gough swings England win by soccer's

David Hopps in Bulawayo TINGLING Gough's inspira-tional entrance has left England confident that they are about to rectify a decade of under-achievement overseas.

Eleven wickets for Gough in the match, the best return of his life, not only assured the tourists of a 115-run vicconvinced them that they begin strong favourites against Zimbabwe both in

EMGLAND X6 First untings 234 Yingin 114, J P Crawley 63) MATABEL LARDS First untings, 168 James 62 Gough 6-64) ENGLAND X6 Second untings, 236–10 F Thorpe 66, 74 Afterion 55)

MATARELET AND Second innings (overnight, 5-0) I J Whittall a Caddick & Gough M H Dekker libw & Croft

md won by 115 russ.

tomorrow's opening one-day international and in Wednesday's first Test

England like to dub Gough "Young Fred" after the most brazen of all fast bowlers. Fred Trueman, and, although the nickname remains partly in jest, the Yorkshireman's performance against Matabehostility that resurrected memories of his belligerent displays in Australia two

years ago.
Gough has been urged to become a more adaptable and flexible fast bowler since recovering from the broken throughout the Test series. foot that threatened to wreck England will be feeding him



Pole vault . . . Gough removes Olonga's off stump to move another step closer to career-best figures of 11 for 139

combination of a flat Bula- | pretty much unavoidable | wayo pitch and several batsmen who looked uncomfortable against short-pitched - a tactic which, unless Eng-

bowling cleared his mind. It was largely a case of just running in and bowling fast land suddenly discover a haven for seam bowling, he will be given licence to adopt

here anyway.

Gough's five for 75 gave match figures of 11 for 139 in 41.2 overs. He reverted to his instinctive style as a two-length bowler, driving bats-men back with short deliver-les and then firing the ball into the blockhole. He swung the new ball away, hinted at reverse swing with the old and generally looked the cock

David Lloyd, England's | coach, said: "It was as flat as hell out there, there was nothing doing but Darren bowled aggressively, hit the players and hit the stumps. He's full of himself — 'I can do that, I can bowl fast, I'll do this, I'll be right' — and it's good to see. People joke about bumper wars and things like that but, if they can't play the short stuff, then they are go-

until only 11.1 overs remained was largely due to Mark Decker, a robust lefthander whose 104 held up England for nearly five hours and contributed to an unrewarding day for Tufnell. Wicketless in 20 overs yester-day, Tufnell was always unlikely to play in tomorrow's one-day international, Russell also stands down, with Silver-Irani, who injured his back. He will not play unless Eng-land are confident he can

The serious

question in

all this is

be paid

for being

donor. The

a sperm

obvious

answer

is that, if

gets paid

for being

then why

shouldn't

a student?

page 15

Jeremy Hardy

The Week

what he is,

Richard Littlejohn

whether it is right to

complete his full allocation. The informal atmosphere that still pervades Zimbabwean cricket was illustrated by the fruition of a bet that Decker had struck in the bar the previous evening when he challenged a drinking buddy called Barrel to streak across the pitch if he made 100. Barrel (well named) duly did so, but only after borrow-

That Matabeleland resisted | ing his brother's underpants because his own were full of holes. While England looked bemused, he profered a congratulatory bottle of lager from which Decker happily swigged. Such moments do nothing to undermine Eng-land's sense of superiority. Lloyd was candid about England's need for a greater

contribution from Caddick.

whose moderate form was ac-

Irani's own unmenacing performance as third seamer. It was left to Croft to offer Gough support, his four wick-ets including that of Decker. leg-before on the back foot.

England have lost two of their three one-day matches against Zimbabwe, all of then staged in Australia. It will be a considerable disappointment if they do not begin to right that record tomorrow.

sneaky rules



David Lacey

ROIN injury and Gerry Francis per-mitting. John Scales will take his place in the Tottenham team against Leeds United this afternoon. It had been widely assumed that Scales would be appearing at Elland Road today but for

Leeds, not Spurs. Until last Sunday night scales gave every indication that he would be joining Leeds from Liverpool. He told the Leeds Clubcall as much. Then

he changed his mind and signed for Tuttenham instead. Bill Fotherby, the Leeds chairman, was incensed. Digging deep into his vocabulary of invective be finally came up with a word to describe Scales's about-turn. The player's behaviour, he said, had been

Ouch! Yaroo! I say you fel-lows, play the game. When a chap says he's going to join the team, it's a bit rotten sneaking off somewhere else. That's the sort of thing Johnny

Foreigner does. There is still a part of football that lives in a make-believe tuck-shop world of simple loyalties and honour without profit. The truth is that in the world of professional football these have seldom applied.

To be sure, the average foot-baller will commit himself wholeheartedly to whichever club he happens to be representing. Even now there are players who have spent the bulk if not the whole of their

It is hard, for example, to imagine Steve Bull playing for anyone but Wolves. In fact Scales has been signed by Tot-tenham to fill the gap left by a long-term injury to another

loyalist, Gary Mabbutt. By and large, bowever, modern footballers are lump labour, moving from site to site and contract to contract. Their principal loyalties are to themselves and their bank balances. They may give their all for the team but when, like

Scales, their services are no longer needed at one place they will generally keep their options open before moving to

It was quickly assumed that Scales was lured to White Hart Lane by a more lucrative deal By moving to Spurs, it was reported, he had increased his veckly wage from £11,000 to £18,000, which made him Tottenham's highest-paid player. Nonsense, said Alan Sugar, the Spurs chairman. Scales would be lucky if he earned £13,000 a week. Something else

must have lured him away from Leeds Perhaps he realised that Tottenham was in London Perhaps he had previously as-sumed it lay between Roundhay and Chapel Allerton; no matter. The thought occurs that, if Spurs feel a 21-year-old utility defender is worth pay-ing £675,000 a year, then Dave Mackay might reasonably feel

he was born 30 years too soon. But that is no fault of Scales. in fact his transfer from Liverpool to Tottenham could have taken place, in the form It did, at any time since profes sional football came into being. He did not ask for a transfer but was placed on the list as superfluous to Anfield's

requirements. Fotherby clearly considered Scales's actions a breach of ethics. This is the club, remember, which sacked Howard Wilkinson in order to appoint a manager who had just served a one-year ban for allegedly receiving bungs on foreign transfers.

spit

F Scales did opt for a better offer from Spurs then he has surely done no more than conform to the game's growing belief that anything goes providing it makes a profit. Money has always been a prime motivating force in the professional game but

now its rule is absolute. Leeds are among the grow been or are about to be taken. over by consortia of businessmen at a time when untold millions will shortly be on tap by way of pay-per-view televi-sion. The fast buck is ap-

proaching the sound barrier. Whenever Scales appears at Elland Road he will doubtless be reviled by Leeds fans with a fury previously reserved for Eric Cantona. But surely all he has done is to play the gam by its own rules — or the lack



SMOKING CAUSES HEART DISEASE Chief Medical Officers' Warning

Guardian COMMINS

Crossword 20,836

A copy of the Collins Collins Roget's International Thesaurus will be sent to the first five correct entries drawn. Entries to Guardian Crossword No 20,836, P.O. Box 315, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 2AX, by first post on Friday, Solution and winners in the Guardian on Manday December 193

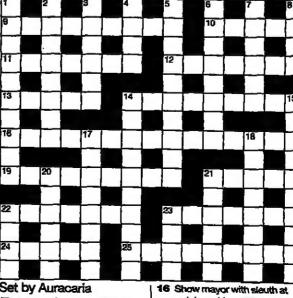
The seven shows are similar

Across 9 They happen when 7 eats chicken — a sign (9)

10 Psalteria from Samoa (5) 11 Film star called Alan in show (7) 12 Sort of kebab, one for its leader, Pharaoh (7)

13 Drug to keep blood in groove 14 Princess to fuel unfinished ruse, not quite having 107 (9)

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point reaching 100 mph (4,11) 19 French aid could be the very

dev# (4-5) 21 See 7

22 It turns tail outside, which is beastly (7) 23 10 strong, within the bounds

of belief (7) 24 Swell plate in vessel (5) 25 Extension under vessel for

crushed flakes with fish (5,4)



1 Possibly hides a pair on seaurchins (10)

2 Fussy, suggesting some carry-on with the foot? (8) 3 Moving ungracefully to court 4 Fellow that may be French (4)

5 Clairvoyant possibly hides

graft (3-7) 6,20 Show birds on another course (8,6)

7,21acr Overweight giant turns up in thick stockings for show with sex change (6,5) 8 Flag to show with 4's 23

14 In heavy snow shave off the power transmitter (5,5) 15 The neglected one of the shows (10).

17 Pre-Nasser party whose destruction was swift and sad (8) 18 Small time currency has a rough time in Ireland (8) 20 See 6

21 Look at 721 across (6) 22 One of those in most of 3 for

